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Quarterly news for alumni of the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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Vice President, Brett Tillou, D.V.M. '04

Secretary, Richard Reid '88, D.V.M. '92

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May 26: Commencement 2019 – Check back for updates!

June 6-9: [Reunion 2019](#)

Contact Us

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Meet our New Members

New At-Large Member

Alumni Association Executive Board

Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

Jacquelyn Bentley DVM '95

Dr. Jacquelyn Bentley attended Cornell University and obtained her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1995. After graduation, she moved to Vermont and spent the first few years of her career as a mixed animal veterinarian. Soon it became apparent, that upstate New York and in particular, the Adirondacks were calling her name. She moved to northern upstate New York and settled into a busy 4 doctor small animal practice in Plattsburgh, New York. Dr. Bentley eventually purchased that practice in 2001 and successfully ran the practice as the sole owner for 12 years before selling it. Because of her family's love for skiing and outdoor activities, in 2013, she and her family moved closer to Lake Placid and the Adirondacks. Dr. Bentley is currently the medical director for Pet Partners' High Peak Animal Hospital in Ray Brook, New York. She continues to enjoy working full time and has developed a special interest in surgery and cardiology. Most importantly, Jacquelyn is a full-time mother to Colin and Shannon, both very active and busy teenagers of which she adores. This is very noticeable when you strike up a conversation about them. Personally, Dr. Bentley enjoys skiing and hiking and plans to complete her Adirondack 46ers this year. She also enjoys all types of fitness, in particular triathlons, and in 2017 became an Ironman as she participated and finished the Lake Placid Ironman. She has always been passionate about balancing her personal life with her professional career.



Donald J. Bruno DVM '87

Donald grew up in Northern NJ and attended Rutgers University undergraduate and University of Connecticut Graduate School (Pathobiology). He graduated Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1987. Upon graduating, Donald returned to NJ and joined an Equine exclusive practice and in 1991 started his own ambulatory practice – Equine Sports Medicine. As a result of one too many shoulder reconstructions, in 2003, Donald gave up horses and became a companion animal veterinarian working at West Orange Animal Hospital that he and his wife Maritza Perez-Bruno DVM purchased the previous year. Donald is a member of the AVMA, NJVMA, and a longtime member of the New Jersey Veterinary Foundation and Education Committee. He serves on the NJ State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners and the executive board of numerous charitable foundations. Donald is married to his classmate – Maritza Perez-Bruno DVM and has three wonderful, successful children, including his daughter Ashleigh who received her DVM from Cornell in 2018. He enjoys snowboarding, fishing, Harley Davidson's and moving his passion of brewing beer to the next level.



Kimberly Kahn DVM '09

Dr. Kimberly Kahn was born and raised in New York City. She received her Bachelor of Arts in psychology from Amherst College in 1998. A few years later she decided upon a career in veterinary medicine and began post-baccalaureate pre-veterinary studies at Columbia University. She earned her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from Cornell University in 2009. Returning to New York City, she completed a small animal medicine and surgery internship at NYC Veterinary Specialists (now Blue Pearl Veterinary Partners). Since then she has worked in private practice and shelter medicine in Manhattan and Brooklyn. She earned her Certification in Veterinary Acupuncture from IVAS in 2014. Since 2013 she has been an associate veterinarian at Prospect Heights Animal Hospital, where she treats small animals and exotic pets. Her veterinary interests include behavior and pain management. She enjoys making veterinary visits easier for anxious and fearful patients. She lives in Manhattan with her husband and their infant daughter. In her free time she enjoys reading, making clothes, and exploring her hometown.



Scott Kaplan DVM '86

Dr. Kaplan grew up in Baldwin, Long Island. He attended the State University of New York at Stony Brook, graduating in 1982 with a Bachelor of Science degree (with high honors) in Biochemistry. He obtained his DVM degree from the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1986. Upon graduation, Dr. Kaplan went into private small animal practice. From 1989-1994 he worked for the American Horse Show Association, serving as the field tester for banned substances at AHSA sanctioned horse shows on Long Island. In 1993 he purchased Smithtown Animal Hospital on Long Island, and continues there as a small animal practitioner to this day. In 2001, Dr. Kaplan was recognized by the U.S. House of Representatives for his volunteer work at the SPCA outpost at the World Trade Center disaster site. Dr. Kaplan is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, the New York Veterinary Medical Association, and the Long Island Veterinary Medical Association. He has been a USDA-APHIS accredited Veterinarian since graduation. Since 2011, Kaplan has served as Veterinary Medical volunteer for his wife Suzanne's animal rescue, Long Island Pit Stop (LIPS). LIPS rescues adoptable animals that have been placed on the euthanasia lists in various New York City shelters. Since its inception LIPS has helped rescue approximately 1000 dogs and cats. At home Dr. Kaplan enjoys spending time with his wife Suzanne, and sons Jake and David. Hobbies include reef tank and African cichlid aquaria, snorkeling and fishing.



Pamela Kirk DVM '86

Dr Pamela Kirk is an upstate New York native who obtained her BS in Animal Science from Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in 1982 and her DVM from NYS College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University in 1986. She practiced her first year in Portland, Maine in a mixed animal practice along with her husband, Dr John Violette also a '86 Cornell DVM. They then moved to Granby, Ct and joined Salmon Brook Veterinary Hospital, a mixed animal practice. Dr Kirk practiced ambulatory equine medicine for her first 15 years at SBVH and then moved into the small animal hospital to practice small animal medicine and surgery. She and her husband are now the senior partners of this venerable practice. Pamela and John have two sons who are both graduates of Cornell University. Their youngest son Nathaniel is also a graduate of Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine class of 2018. He is at the Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine doing a small animal rotating internship. No plans as yet to return to practice with his parents! Pamela loves to ride her horse, hike with her dog and spend as much time with her family at their camp in Maine as possible!



Carole Richards DVM '07

Dr. Carole grew up in Washington, IL and received her Bachelors degree in Biology from Eureka College. She graduated from Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2007. Dr. Richards moved to Northern Virginia and began her career as a small animal exotic pet veterinarian. After 4 years, she joined the Caring Hands Animal Hospital team and started her true calling as a small animal veterinarian. Dr. Richards became a co-owner with Caring Hands Animal Hospital of Merrifield in 2014 and the Caring Hands Animal Hospital of Ashburn in 2017. Carole and her husband, Dr. Grant Richards (CUCVM 2007), live in Warrenton, VA and share their home with 1 dog and 4 cats. They enjoy cooking, swimming and running.





Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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Matt Braun begins term as CVM assistant dean for alumni affairs and development

🐾 Monday, November 12, 2018 - 9:46am



Matt Braun starts his role as new assistant dean for alumni affairs and development (AA&D) at the college on November 12.

As assistant dean for AA&D, Braun will serve as the chief development officer for all development programs, and direct the college's overall fundraising and alumni outreach strategies, set campaign and annual fundraising goals for the college, and promote the college to internal and external constituencies. Braun will work closely with the college's advisory council, alumni executive board, as well as faculty and staff in academic departments, hospitals and centers.

In previous roles, he served as director of development at the Johnson Museum of Art at Cornell, was executive director at both the Fleisher Art Memorial in Philadelphia and The History Center in Tompkins County. Braun holds a BFA from Washington University in St. Louis. He also completed a post-graduate residency at the Slade School of Art at the University College of London as a Fulbright Scholar.

Braun succeeds Alison Smith, who served as interim assistant dean after Kevin Mahaney stepped down in early 2018. "We are very grateful for Alison's efforts during this transition period," says Lorin D. Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. '94, Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine. "Alison's professionalism and experienced perspectives have been of tremendous value." Smith will continue in her role as a major gift officer for the college, strengthening relationships with many of the College's most generous alumni and friends.

In his new role, Braun will guide the AA&D efforts in sync with the College's strategic priorities, and in support of the University's vision to position Cornell as the model of a premier university for our times.

"I'm thrilled to be joining such a talented AA&D team. Their success in helping to advance the College over many years provides a terrific foundation for our future work together."

"I'm pleased to have Matt join us at the college," says Warnick. "We are excited to begin working with him to reach the college's strategic goals. The college is fortunate to have exceptional Alumni and Affairs Development staff and Matt will be a terrific addition and leader for the team."



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Event recognizes the rich history of Cornell's Small Animal Community Practice

🐾 Wednesday, October 17, 2018 - 4:02pm



Dr. William Hornbuckle attended the ceremony and offered a brief history of the service. All photos by the College of Veterinary Medicine.

After moving into one of the most modern buildings on campus this summer, the community practice service (CPS) in the Cornell University Hospital for Animals (CUHA) reflected on its more humble roots during the official opening ceremony for the Small Animal Community Practice on October 5.

“The creation of the Small Animal Community Practice allows the college to build on the established teaching model by continuing to provide exceptional care to animals in our community while also providing fourth-year D.V.M. students with real-life experiences in running a veterinary clinic,” said Lorin Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. '94, the Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine. “It also marks the final addition under the 91.5 million-dollar class expansion project.”



Drs. Thompson, Hornbuckle and Warnick pose next to a work-in-progress history wall detailing the origins of the Small Animal Community Practice.

CPS had its beginnings at Cornell in the 1980s. The internal medicine faculty, spearheaded by Dr. Sharon Center, proposed an independent primary care service that would meet these changing views and the evolving role of the hospital. Dr. Robert Playter, director of the teaching hospital from 1985-1990, supported their proposal and worked with Drs. Center; W. Jay Gould, D.V.M. '76; William Hornbuckle; John Randolph, D.V.M. '77; and James Zimmer to establish a primary care service in the Small Animal Clinic.

Hornbuckle, the Rudolph J. and Katherine L. Steffen Professor of Veterinary Medicine emeritus, attended the ceremony and offered a brief history of the service. "I'd like to congratulate Dr. Thompson, Dean Warnick and the rest of the administration who supported the building of this clinic, and I wish my associates – new and old – good luck in the future ahead," he said.



Acknowledging the two community members who contributed to the naming of the Small Animal Community Practice.

CPS became a formal rotation for veterinary students in 1987. It was predominately a medical service during the first decade of its existence and third and fourth-year students performed simple, non-invasive surgical and dentistry procedures. In his brief history, Hornbuckle noted that the presence of experienced licensed veterinary technicians (LVTs) was particularly important. LVTs trained dozens of work study students and increased efficiency for students and faculty alike.

In 2008, Dr. Michael Kotlikoff, dean of the college from 2007-2015, and Warnick, who was assistant dean of education at the time, led an initiative for veterinary students to receive even more training in surgical procedures. The surgical experience of CPS students was expanded to include neuters, spays, tumor removals and laceration closures.



Attendees participated in a tour of the Small Animal Community Practice.

The service has experienced several moves since the mid-1980s, traveling from the hospital to a building near the farrier shop and back. It made its latest move to the Small Animal Community Practice in summer 2018, occupying this facility with shelter medicine. The new building has five exam rooms, a treatment room and an area for hospitalizing animals. The addition of two dental workstations means that the practice can now offer full dental services. The clinic contains its own surgery and X-ray facilities, and is completely feline-friendly. Situated independently from the rest of the hospital facilities, the new practice is an effort to prepare students for the day-to-day challenges of running a general practice.

“Even the design of the building is optimized to give students a range of experiences,” said Dr. Meg Thompson, CUHA director and associate dean for hospital operations and corporate relations, who noted exam room designs, surgery room features and unique cages at the event.

Said Warnick, “The new Small Animal Community Practice uniquely blends entrepreneurial education with hands-on clinical training to meet the demands of a changing field.”



Exterior of Cornell's new Small Animal Community Practice.

By Melanie Greaver Cordova



Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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Fall veterinary conference promotes educational verve

🐾 Thursday, October 11, 2018 - 11:02am



The Fall New York State Veterinary Conference draws veterinarians and veterinary technicians from across the Northeast. Nearly 850 people attended this year, a record number that includes approximately 150 students and other members of the CVM community. Photo by the College of Veterinary Medicine.

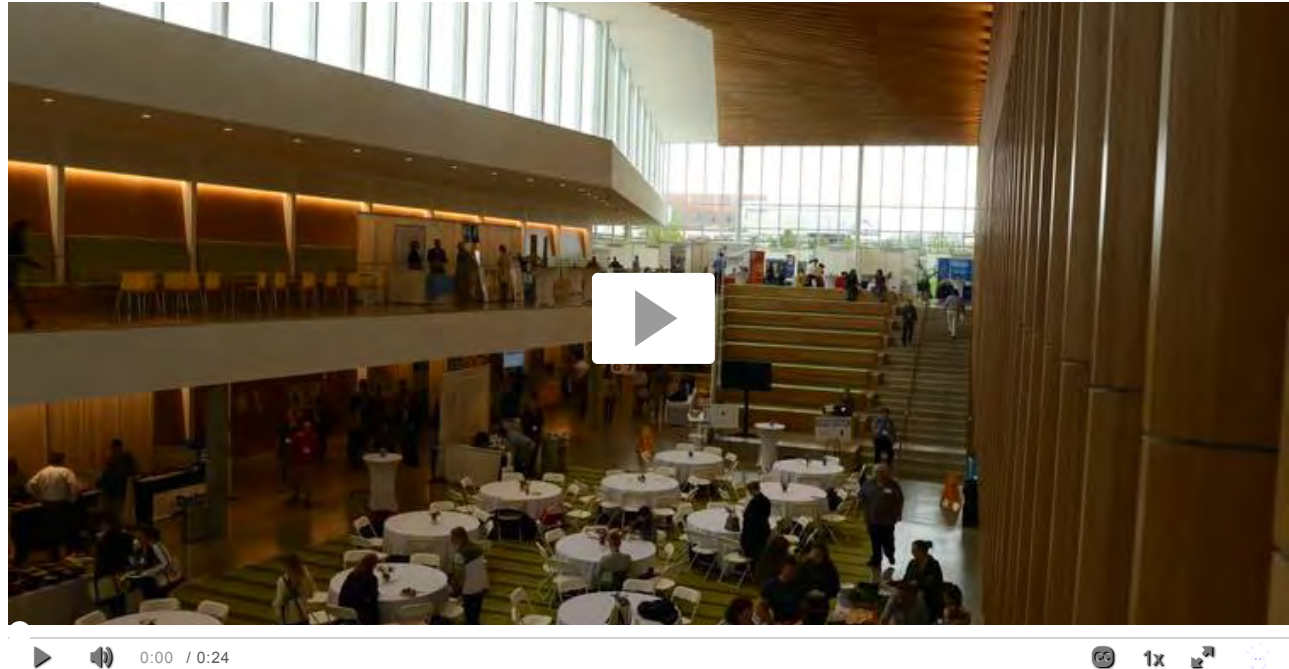
Veterinary professionals at every stage in their career converged on Ithaca this weekend for the Fall 2018 New York State Veterinary Conference (NYS-VC). The three-day continuing education event featured traditional lectures as well as new learning formats designed to optimize learning. Interactive case studies, games for learning and educational technology labs helped attendees practice applying what they learned in the new state-of-the-art facilities at the College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM).

NYS-VC draws veterinarians and veterinary technicians from across the Northeast. Nearly 850 people attended this year, a record number that includes approximately 150 students and other members of the CVM community.

“Attendees really liked our new interactive, applied learning sessions,” said Jodi Korich, D.V.M. ’97, associate dean for education. “Moving forward, we will develop CE [continuing education] programs that offer greater levels of customized learning.”

Applied learning is a component of President Martha Pollack’s educational verve initiative for Cornell. “This is what we must aspire to in education: a vitality that leads our students to a lifetime of discovery, a passion for ideas and a commitment to seeking truth,” said Pollack during her summer 2017 inauguration ceremony. NYS-VC aspired to that and more this weekend, with several different tracks attendees could choose from, including companion animal, equine, bovine, small ruminant, camelid and veterinary technician tracks.

New this year was a track on backyard poultry, a rising interest among owners who want to install chicken coops and raise their own farm-fresh eggs. Jarra Jagne, D.V.M. ’90, senior extension associate, and Dr. Elizabeth Buckles, associate clinical professor, led attendees through backyard chicken treatments, vaccinations and diagnostic approaches. They followed their lectures with hands-on labs featuring live chickens so attendees could practice techniques to safely examine and restrain them.



The conference is co-sponsored by CVM and the New York State Veterinary Medical Society (NYSVMS). Each year, NYS-VC holds a celebration dinner to honor veterinary professionals with prestigious awards. This year’s dinner was held at the Lab of Ornithology, where Lorin D. Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. ’94, the Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine, recognized the recipients for “advancing the veterinary profession, each in their own unique way.” This year’s award recipients included:

- Stephanie West, D.V.M. ’90: Outstanding Service to Veterinary Medicine
- Ian Wetherly ’61, D.V.M. ’62: Distinguished Life Service Award
- Dr. Bill Miller and Julia Miller, D.V.M. ’12: Joint winners of the Outstanding Speaker Award
- Bruce Haynes, D.V.M. ’52: Daniel Elmer Salmon Award for Distinguished Alumni Service


This year's conference included networking events for everyone, from early career veterinarians to seasoned practitioners and licensed veterinary technicians. There were even events for the animals themselves, like the annual DeeDee Arrison Concert for the Animals. The concert featured internationally-acclaimed violinists and members of the Stradivari Society Tim Fain and Francisco Fullana, accompanied by Grammy-nominated pianist Robert Koenig. The concert, open to people and animals, has been a regular feature at the college since 2009. It is sponsored by Clement and Karen Arrison in honor of their dog who was treated for bone cancer at the Cornell University Hospital for Animals.

The weekend also included an official dedication ceremony for the new Small Animal Community Practice, which opened to patients this summer. Warnick and Dr. Meg Thompson, associate dean of hospital operations and corporate relations, thanked everyone for their support for the facility, whose completion marked the end of the class expansion project. Dr. William Hornbuckle, the Rudolph J. and Katherine L. Steffen Professor of Veterinary Medicine emeritus, returned to the college to offer attendees in the crowded atrium a brief history of the community practice service, from its origins in the 1980s and its many moves to the evolving role of students and veterinary technicians.

Said Hornbuckle, "I'd like to congratulate Dr. Thompson, Dean Warnick and the rest of the administration who supported the building of this clinic, and I wish my associates – new and old – good luck in the future ahead."

By Melanie Greaver Cordova

Thursday, October 11, 2018 - 10:54am

 Image



NYS-VC 2018

NYS-VC 2018



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Wildlife Health Cornell's crowdfunding campaign aims to make a change for good



Photo by R. Gilbert

We are losing wildlife at an alarming rate: **60% of vertebrate animals on land and in sea since 1970.**

If you care about wildlife or nature, make a change for good now – [Join Wildlife Health Cornell's crowdfunding campaign.](#)

We are currently living through Earth's sixth mass extinction. The magnificence of nature and wildlife depends on wild animal, domestic animal and human health today and well into the future. Together, will we thrive or merely survive? With your help, our programs can continue to have an impact on the well-being of our planet and the animals upon it.

📅 November 8, 2018 📁 College News 🗞 College News, November 2018

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Lisa Freeman, D.V.M. '86, named first female president of Northern Illinois University

🐾 Monday, October 22, 2018 - 8:06am



Lisa Freeman, D.V.M. '86, will be Northern Illinois University's first female president. Photo by LIU.

Northern Illinois University (NIU) has named their 13th president: College of Veterinary Medicine alumna Lisa Freeman '81, M.S. '86, D.V.M. '86. Freeman will be the university's first female president.

"It is my professional and personal honor to lead NIU forward," said Freeman. "NIU is home to world-class faculty, dedicated employees and a diverse and proud student body, with an incredibly strong support network of alumni and donors. I look forward to collaborating with the Huskie community to strengthen the transformative educational experience NIU provides regionally, nationally and globally."

The NIU Board of Trustees acknowledged Freeman's strong leadership, energy, transparency and performance during her time as acting president, specifically praising her efforts not only to stabilize the university during a leadership

transition, but also for making significant progress in developing a vision and plan to move the university forward in areas such as enrollment, fiscal sustainability and process improvement.

Prior to becoming acting president in July, Freeman held the position of executive vice president and provost, in which she provided administrative oversight and programmatic direction to academic affairs, human resources services and student affairs.

“I welcome the opportunity to be a tireless advocate for our university and for building upon our current momentum as we begin to develop a comprehensive strategic plan,” said Freeman.

[Read NIU’s full announcement at their website.](#)



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Toolkit provides resources for veterinarians to battle pet obesity trend

🐾 Thursday, October 4, 2018 - 10:11am



"The biggest hurdles that we have in combating pet obesity are details of the human-animal bond and communicating effectively with clients on this difficult topic," said Gillian Angliss, D.V.M. '07. Photo by the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Cornell alumnae have developed a set of tools for veterinarians across the United States to more easily address pet obesity with their clients. The resources in the [Pet Obesity Toolkit](#) – created by Gillian Angliss, D.V.M. '07, and Stephanie Janeczko, D.V.M. '04, M.S. '09 – are now freely available to all members of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

"We wanted to provide a way for veterinarians to approach a conversation about obesity with their clients," said Angliss. "It can be difficult communicating that in a delicate and informative way."

Over half of all dogs and cats in the United States are overweight or obese, according to the AVMA. As in humans, obesity is linked to chronic and debilitating diseases in pets, including heart disease, diabetes mellitus and cancer.

Few pet owners actually discuss their pet's ideal weight with a veterinarian, said Angliss, who works as a clinical assistant professor at Western University of Health Sciences.

To that end, the toolkit has communication resources for veterinarians as well as client-facing documents they can use in their practice. The information covers canine, feline and equine patients, and includes a questionnaire that helps assess a patient's weight, a weight management video veterinarians can play in their practices, handouts with suggestions on substituting pet treats and a 30-day pledge for clients to commit to new habits and behaviors.

"Behavior changes are sometimes harder than we think they'll be. For this toolkit, we thought about how behavior change happens and what kind of materials would be beneficial to help support that," said Angliss.

"Our group [looked] at what resources are currently available out there as well as some of the challenges that veterinarians and pet owners face in terms of having their pets at a healthy weight," said Janeczko.

"The biggest hurdles that we have in combating pet obesity are details of the human-animal bond and communicating effectively with clients on this difficult topic," said Angliss. Our relationships with animals and food are complex and individual, she added, noting veterinarians should assist their clients in finding reasons to help their pet lose weight.

Angliss and Janeczko developed the toolkit as part of the AVMA Future Leaders Program. During the research and development phase, the group piloted the 30-day pledge, and discovered the abundance of materials they had created proved overwhelming for some veterinarians. "No one's going to use every single one of these resources, but veterinarians can pick and customize what works for their practice," said Angliss.

The Future Leaders presented their final deliverables during the July 2018 Denver AVMA convention in their session "Promise: A Campaign for Healthy Weight Management."

"I hope to see greater awareness and more discussion about the topic of pet obesity," said Angliss. "I also hope to help more veterinary teams feel confident and resource-rich for assisting in the management of pet obesity."

The Future Leaders program is a one-year curriculum for veterinarians who have graduated within the last 15 years. The AVMA selects up to 10 participants each year to work on developing leadership qualities and problem-solving skills. The group put together a commentary on the toolkit for the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association and partnered with the Organization for Pet Obesity Prevention to promote it to practicing veterinarians as well as keep the content evergreen and useful.

By Melanie Greaver Cordova



Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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John Gallagher '95, D.V.M. '00, and Meredith Re '00, D.V.M. '04, take their practice on the road

🐾 Wednesday, October 31, 2018 - 10:35am



Instead of driving to the office each morning, John Gallagher '95, D.V.M. '00, and Meredith Re '00, D.V.M. '04, climb into their 25-foot van, equipped with an exam table, x-ray machine and surgical equipment, and head to their first appointment.

The husband-and-wife team launched their mobile veterinarian practice in Darien, Conn. in 2011 and haven't regretted it since. The only problem they've encountered is chasing the occasional cat through an attic or basement because it didn't want to get vaccinated.

"I always tell people, 'As best as you can, isolate your pet in the bathroom,' because I don't like going exploring through people's houses," Gallagher says.

Not having attended the College of Veterinary Medicine at the same time, the couple met at the North American Veterinary Conference in Orlando while Re was still completing her studies in Ithaca. Besides their connection to Cornell, they found had something else in common — Long Island.

“The simplest version of the story is at the time, John was practicing on Long Island and he was complaining about being on Long Island,” Re says. “Being from Long Island, I felt the need to defend my home area. That started the conversation.”

Four years after getting married, the couple opened their mobile practice, Good Shepherd Veterinary Services. Gallagher had just ended a seven-year battle fighting metastatic melanoma and had been doing relief and emergency work at several practices in Westchester County, while Re was at a small practice in Norwalk, Conn. The intense treatment for his cancer changed their perspective on their careers.

“Having battled cancer and it being very difficult to maintain one job because of everything he was going through, I think all of that played into my decision when John convinced me in 2010 that it was time to leave my job and join up with him,” Re says.

After the cancer went into remission, they initially explored opening a brick-and-mortar practice but ultimately decided a mobile veterinary service was more practical.

“Starting from scratch, the real estate alone was over a \$1 million, and you have to build a practice and staff it,” Gallagher says. “It’s a multi-million-dollar proposition in our area, and we love where we live.”

For Re, the prospect of owning a mobile practice was an option that would allow her to combine motherhood and her career. Their son, Jedd, was born two years later, in 2012, and Re has been bringing him to appointments since he was an infant.

“It gives us that work-life balance,” she says. “It’s as close as you can get to being able to say, ‘It’s 6 o’clock, and I would like to go home.’ ”

What attracted Gallagher was the freedom that comes with owning your own business. “The thing I really enjoy is being my own business owner — that pretty much allows you to do what you want. I can work or I can go for a swim or take a bike ride,” he says. “It definitely allows you to be more human as a vet.”

Their clients also prefer using a mobile veterinarian, especially if they have more than one pet or are working full time. “If we have clients who work fulltime in Manhattan, we go in and out of their house with their permission and take care of their pets while they’re at work,” Re says.

The couple use their van, a customized ambulance vehicle manufactured by Mercedes, when they need to conduct advanced procedures, such as surgery or x-rays. Most of the time they simply drive to clients’ homes, along with their full-time assistant, for routine exams, blood work and vaccinations.

One perk they look forward to during appointments is an invitation to step into the kitchen for a cup of coffee. “It’s kind of like becoming part of people’s families,” Re says. “Because we’re inside of their homes, we really get to know them.”

By Sherrie Negrea



Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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Veterinarians weigh the choice to stay small or join the giants

🐾 Monday, October 15, 2018 - 10:09am



Veterinary medicine will continue to have its conflicting views on the corporate consolidation trend in years to come, and young professionals entering the field will be witness to the battle.

As newly-graduated veterinarians enter the workforce each spring, they're seeing more and more of the same logos across veterinary job boards: Pet Partners. Blue Pearl. Banfield. NVA. Large veterinary care conglomerates are on the rise, with practice consolidation occurring at an increasingly rapid rate. For many in the field, it's a trend that sparks either excitement or concern. While college alumni and other veterinary colleagues fall on both sides of the debate, it will be up to the students to decide which path of the trend to travel, and for the College of Veterinary Medicine to prepare them for both.

Years in the making

The process in which larger practices buy smaller ones is not new. For decades, independent practices have joined to pool resources and maximize efficiency. In recent years, however, larger corporations joined the game. Just over a decade ago, Mars Petcare, a subsidiary of the food giant Mars, Inc., bought Banfield Pet Hospital, which had more than 900 branches in the United States. In 2015, they acquired BluePearl — the largest companion animal specialty and emergency care chain in the country with 53 locations. They then purchased Pet Partners in 2016, a group of 60 general practices.

Mars' next move shook up the veterinary industry even further: In early 2017, they announced their purchase of VCA Animal Hospitals, which at the time owned 780 animal hospitals in the United States and Canada, along with 50 diagnostic laboratories. This most recent consolidation names Mars as the owner of nearly 2,000 practices in North America, about two-thirds of all corporate-owned hospitals. Mars Petcare's reach dominates over any other veterinary conglomerate, with National Veterinary Associates coming in at a distant second with 422 branches.

Dr. Nick Nelson, acting president and chief operating officer of Pet Partners, attributes the consolidation trend to factors like failure to keep up with wage inflation, which is a daunting prospect for veterinary students emerging from school carrying high levels of debt. He also notes how wages for para-professionals like licensed and associate technicians were staying stagnant at best and were unlivable at worst. These factors, combined with hospitals duplicating purchases of expensive equipment in the same town, can make for an unstable, unproductive field, says Nelson.

"Part of private practice consolidation is about creating a stable future for our profession," he says, "as well as a future that is about the health and well-being of our people."

"Part of private practice consolidation is about creating a stable future for our profession, as well as a future that is about the health and well-being of our people."

- Dr. Nick Nelson, acting president and chief operating officer at Pet Partners

Maritza Perez-Bruno, D.V.M. '87, notes that in New Jersey, where she owns her family-run practice West Orange Animal Hospital, the outlook is much different. "I personally don't see consolidation as a long-term thing," she says, "at least not in our area." Indeed, small practices aren't going anywhere. Of the total veterinary medical firms in the United States, corporations own only 3,000 of the total 26,000.

Perez-Bruno runs her practice with husband and fellow alum Donald Bruno, D.V.M. '87. Their daughter Ashleigh Bruno, D.V.M. '18, will be joining the practice in 2019. Perez-Bruno says she has witnessed the profession's instability actually increase in her area since she purchased her hospital in 2002, after signing on as an employee under the previous owner in 1989. "At first, people in our area who sell to corporate receive a lot of money, and for the first however many years, they have contracts with the doctors to stay on to make the transition smoother," she says, "but when that contract is gone, they keep the original associate as the medical director and keep hiring new associates,

and what we're finding is that clients aren't happy with those sorts of changes." Perez-Bruno says that this "revolving door" of associates coming in and out is part of the problem with corporate consolidation.

Consolidation: Benefit to new vets?

Student debt is a major concern for most graduates entering the field. For this and other reasons, Donald Powell, D.V.M. '69, co-founder of Pender Veterinary Centre in Fairfax, Virginia, sees consolidation in a more positive light. "It's doing good things for veterinarians, and I've got no problem with that," he says. "We're currently dealing with a shortage in veterinarians, so some corporations are offering a six-figure starting salary, and help pay off some student loans as well." Powell knows that to compete with corporations, his hospital needs to offer attractive salaries and work-life balance to new recruits.

In November of last year, corporate veterinary practice Banfield Pet Hospital introduced a Veterinary Student Debt Relief Pilot Program that offers its eligible doctors options that include loan refinancing, a \$150 monthly student loan contribution and \$2,500 one-time, lump sum contributions for every qualifying student program a doctor might have participated in prior to graduation.

Large practices like Banfield often have the ability to offer comprehensive benefits packages that smaller, private practices may not.

Additionally, practices like Banfield often have the ability to offer comprehensive benefits packages that smaller, private practices may not. This was key for Dr. Ashley Harris, director of veterinary quality at Banfield. "To me, the number-one advantage of working in corporate practice is the benefits we can offer our associates, which don't compare to any private practice I know of," she says. "At Banfield, that's everything from health insurance, to paid time off, medical leave and volunteer opportunities, to covering costs of continued education and licensing — whether for our doctors or our para-professionals."

Lauren Griggs, D.V.M. '16, worked at a Banfield clinic in Arizona for over a year immediately after graduating, and attributes the signing bonus of \$15,000, fully-funded moving expenses and benefits package as a key part of the appeal that initially drew her to take a position with the company. But, for Griggs, these perks could not make up for the eventual burn-out she experienced at her high-volume branch. "I loved the benefits. They were really good," she says. "But they weren't worth my sanity."



Lauren Griggs, D.V.M. '16, worked at a Banfield clinic in Arizona for over a year immediately after graduating. Photo provided.

Meeting financial goals

Griggs' comment touches on a key complaint around corporate clinics — the focus on the bottom-line.

“At Banfield, they do emphasize getting as many pets in as possible,” Griggs recalls of her branch. “They have had a reputation of pressuring vets and practice managers to sell more plans and products.”

“Every quarter,” says Perez-Bruno of West Orange Animal Hospital, “corporations want to have increased productivity, which translates to increased revenues. You’re not just accountable to you anymore; you’re accountable to a board of directors.” In some ways, she says, this can be a good thing because it shows associates how a well-run practice makes money. When a corporate entity purchases a private practice, they provide that practice with all the tools and help they can, especially if it’s struggling, she notes, and all of this help is contingent on meeting those quarterly goals. “You can only make so much money after a while,” Perez-Bruno says. “After a couple of years of having a very good practice, they will still want more.”

Mitchell Kornet '76, D.V.M. '79, owner of Mid Island Animal Hospital in Hicksville, New York, says many of his colleagues see an apparent difference in the goals of some corporate practices and private practices. “Corporate practices have to answer to stockholders and the bottom line, while many private practices focus on long-term relationships with patients and clients,” says Kornet. “Every practice has to make a profit to be sustainable, but a concern is that some corporations are not as interested in the bonds that their veterinarians make.”

Profit often comes through enacting efficient policies throughout a practice. Michelle Vitulli, D.V.M. '91, owner of Caring Hands Animal Hospital in Centreville, Virginia, says, “For the business, there is a focus on streamlining the

'back office' operations, improved market share for the pharmacy with lower pharmacy costs and increased profitability by a more focused management of expenses." These expenses can be daunting for a young professional considering owning her own practice, and can play a role in whether one chooses the corporate or private route especially in the early stages of a career.

If young veterinarians want to enhance their earning potential, they'll need to own their own practice, says Mitchell Kornet '76, D.V.M. '79.

Corporations often mitigate these concerns, as there are few ownerships risks involved for those who join up with Pet Partners, for example. Nelson says that Pet Partners can provide the leadership skills a veterinarian might be interested in learning but without the financial risk of building her own team. He describes Pet Partners as a place "where you can lead a team and cut your teeth but not on your own dime." Nelson's focus is less to do with straight financials and more to do with people: "Only a small percentage of business ownership is owning from a bank," he says. "In fact, I would challenge that most of business ownership is when you get to lead and develop people, when you provide a harmonious environment, where you create a great place to work, where inclusion is at the forefront."

However, many maintain that business ownership is the best path to financial success in the veterinary field. Kornet is concerned how the consolidation trend might remove this path for many veterinarians.

"This is really impactful for alumni looking to buy a practice," he says. "Thirty years ago, the model was that, as a veterinarian, you'd buy into your own practice, or start your own practice — but now there's the competition with a larger corporation buying that practice instead. I think that's bad for future entrepreneurs because they don't have the same opportunities." If young veterinarians want to enhance their earning potential, says Kornet, they'll need to own their own practice.

Harris weighed these considerations carefully before deciding to join Banfield. "Years ago," she says, "I was considering owning my own practice, but ultimately realized there were many things I didn't want — to be my own marketing department, finance department, public relations and so on. At Banfield, we have experts in each of those areas, so I can do as much or as little of them as I want, and that's one of the many reasons I chose Banfield, along with the community of support, flexibility, dedication to quality medicine and commitment to continuous learning and improvement."



Mitchell Kornet '76, D.V.M. '79, speaks to Cornell veterinary students at the 2018 White Coat Ceremony. Photo by the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Client care

Client care is another point of debate between private or corporate practices. For those who are pro-consolidation, there's much to be gained.

"[Banfield's] scale enables us to strengthen and improve veterinary medicine by sharing our data, tools and insights with the profession and pet owners alike," says Harris. "Being part of an even larger company like Mars enables Banfield and our sister practices to learn not only from each other but also to benefit from the wealth of knowledge within the Mars network."

Griggs had a different experience at her Banfield clinic, where she found herself, just a year out of veterinary school, struggling as the only veterinarian on staff. "I was working by myself and not continuing to grow," says Griggs. "I had to turn so many patients away because I didn't have the experience to treat some of the more complicated cases ... Ultimately, the medical care was the last straw for me — I felt like the quality was really lacking."

"Corporate practices have to answer to stockholders and the bottom line, while many private practices focus on long-term relationships with patients and clients."

While caseload may be high, corporate practices do provide a standardized customer experience, with a set of guidelines on how each branch delivers its services. While this standardization may appeal to some clients, it could wear on a clinician, says Kornet. "Some corporations have formulas that dictate how you're to treat an animal, and that leaves out a lot of the creativity a veterinarian might have," he says. "In private practice, I get to have a lot of fun thinking about each patient and using my creativity."

- Mitchell Kornet '76, D.V.M. '79

Perez-Bruno agrees. “[Corporations] have an algorithm they have to follow,” she says, “and each doctor has to practice the same way.” By contrast, in Perez-Bruno’s practice, she employs four veterinarians, each of whom practices medicine differently. She says there is no need to dictate to them a specific way of practicing if their methods differ or if they come from a different school.

“As long as my patients are happy and that you’re doing good medicine, we allow you to practice any way you feel comfortable,” she says. “We also have the flexibility to practice according to the owner’s financial situation, since we are more flexible than corporate in how much we want to charge to help a patient for treatment.”

Creating a community

The opinion on corporate versus private practice culture runs the gamut. Some say corporations provide a unified culture and others that it can feel like a faceless organization, while still more may argue that the stress of keeping a private practice afloat undercuts the flexibility it can also provide.

Newer generations of veterinarians are clear about the work-life balance they expect in their field. Bigger companies are able to offer more flexible work schedules, and that sort of culture may drive them to the corporate side.

Perez-Bruno remarks on the trade-off: “One thing with corporate is you can leave everything behind you at the end of the day, but then you’re an employee only,” she says, which isn’t the case with her practice. “It’s more of a family culture here,” she says of West Orange Animal Hospital.

“We have patients who have been coming here for generations. People come in here and say they remember when they were a kid. It’s being kept by the same person for over 30 years, people know you in the community and you’re part of the community.”

Vitulli of Caring Hands Animal Hospital adds, “Just because there are these benefits [to corporate consolidation],” she says, “it doesn’t necessarily equate to a better work experience, better team experience or better client experience.”

In Griggs’ case, she has since left Banfield and joined a different kind of conglomerate — a co-op of 21 different hospitals in Arizona known as AZ Pet Vet where she works for Surprise Animal Hospital. Each co-op member functions as an independent business, but adheres to core standards set out by AZ Pet Vet. “From the moment I walked through the door, I could see a huge difference, not only in quality of medicine that was being provided, but also the compassion the providers had,” says Griggs. “I couldn’t believe it was all there in one place.”

In reflection on her previous job, Griggs notes that the Banfield model can work well in other branches. “If you’re in a location that’s able to retain its veterinarians and practice managers, then you wouldn’t get the same kind of burnout I had,” she says. “I really like the values Banfield promotes — it’s all about preventative care, and they make veterinary care affordable for people who struggle with those costs.”

“We have patients who have been coming here for generations. People come in here and say they remember when they were a kid. It’s being kept by the same person for over 30 years, people know you in the community and you’re part of the community.”

- Maritza Perez-Bruno, D.V.M. 87,
owner of West Orange Animal
Hospital



Michelle Vitulli, D.V.M. '91, stands outside one of her Caring Hands Animal Hospital locations. Photo provided.

Ownership still an option

While alumni may differ in their views on the benefits that consolidation presents to clients and clinicians, there's agreement that a form of practice ownership is a smart path for many young veterinarians. "What I did myself thirty years ago is still possible," says Kornet. Indeed, money is even more accessible today than decades ago. "Banks are more willing to lend than they were before. They realize that veterinary practices are often profitable business entities."

"If I was a graduating today, I would still go out on my own," Powell says. "I would look very hard at the right location, right building and the right business to purchase. If you look at those factors carefully, practice ownership is still a very valid thing to do."

For Harris at Banfield, choosing between owning a practice and going corporate is a very personal choice. "When I entered practice, I wrongly assumed every practice had the same set of offerings," she says. "So whatever the case may be, it's important to ask questions in advance to increase the likelihood that your needs will be met."

There are banks that specialize in veterinary hospitals, says Perez-Bruno, and there are even veterinary accountants. "There are people out there who are willing to help you if that is your dream." And, while the financial options may be more constrained due to the consolidation trend, says Kornet, that doesn't mean that buying or starting a practice can't be done.

Training for any path

While debate stirs around issues such as finances, professional development, client care and work culture, the College of Veterinary Medicine seeks both productive engagement in the discussion and to prepare students for career success. "There is no doubt that practice consolidation is happening," says Lorin Warnick, D.V.M., PhD '94, Austin O.

Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine. “And I believe it is our job as a college to prepare our students for the full spectrum of career opportunities out there — whether it’s starting their own private practice or a veterinary service corporation.”

As part of that training, the college has driven business and entrepreneurship skills through several efforts, including the Animal Health Hackathon and bringing in business leaders in the veterinary field to speak to students. The latest and most comprehensive effort is through the recent launch of the Small Animal Community Practice, a new 10,000 square foot building on Campus Road, which operates as an independent companion animal clinic.

“Our goal is to prepare them for the day-to-day challenges of running an independent general practice,” Warnick explains. “The new clinic will do just that, blending entrepreneurial education with hands-on clinical training.” In addition to performing clinical treatments, fourth-year D.V.M. students will also be involved with billing, building maintenance, tracking cash flow, service pricing and human resources. Students will also be training on new automated, smart software systems for managing electronic patient records, referrals and patient treatments.

“I believe it is our job as a college to prepare our students for the full spectrum of career opportunities out there — whether it’s starting their own private practice or a veterinary service corporation.”

- Lorin Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. '94,
the Austin O. Hooey Dean of
Veterinary Medicine

Looking to the future

Veterinary medicine will continue to have its conflicting views on the corporate consolidation trend in years to come, and young professionals entering the field will be witness to the battle. They may also experience — and participate in — a range of other debates that alumni currently in the profession see on the horizon. Issues like the cost of medicine and livable wages, insurance for pet parents as well as for practitioners, are all movements developing in the field even now. On the consolidation trend, however, the dust has not settled, and the college isn’t waiting for it to do so. “As more of our veterinary graduates find their place in the veterinary profession, they’ll start shaping the pathways themselves,” says Warnick. “And I’m confident the field will be richer and more robust for it.”

By Melanie Greaver Cordova and Lauren Cahoon Roberts

This story originally appeared in the summer issue of 'Scopes, the magazine of the College of Veterinary Medicine.



Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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Coffee & Conversation event brings current students and alumni together

🐾 Friday, November 9, 2018 - 3:06pm



Coffee & Conversation, an annual event at the Fall New York State Veterinary Conference that brings alumni and current students together. Photos by Rachel Philipson.

College alumni bonded with current veterinary students during this year's fall New York State Veterinary Conference in the "Coffee and Conversation" portion of the weekend. An annual tradition since 2013, this event is an opportunity to bring alumni and students together for informal conversations and networking.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to share with these very engaged students the lessons I've learned in my career," said Mark Olcott, D.V.M. '95. "The conversations are wide ranging and I always leave them with both a feeling of pride in being a Cornell alum, and also confidence in the future of our profession."

"I think the networking event is important because it gives students the opportunity to meet and talk to successful vets who have gone through everything we are going through," said third-year student Rachel Somma. "All the alumni

are always very excited to see us and talk to us, which is great.”

The 2013 event began with a handful of alumni and students, and has grown significantly over time. This year, despite the early start time of 7:30 a.m., approximately 45 current students and 16 alumni met in the lobby of the Animal Health Diagnostic Center to share their stories and learn from one another.

“As a veterinarian who is a bit long in the tooth, this event gives me an opportunity to learn from the student participants,” said Malcolm Kram, D.V.M. ’74. “It is also a great opportunity to share my experiences within the profession and open their minds to the tremendous opportunities that exist for them in addition to clinical practice. I’m constantly amazed of their desire to explore global opportunities, especially in the arenas of public health, the environment and nutrition.”

“I attended the alumni-student networking event the past two years and both times it was a very worthwhile experience,” added third-year student Chelsea Colangelo. “It’s a great way to get to know people personally and expand your professional network.”

“ The conversations are wide ranging and I always leave them with both a feeling of pride in being a Cornell alum, and also confidence in the future of our profession.

- Mark Olcott, D.V.M. '95


The alumni who participated included Susan Ackermann, D.V.M. ’86; Jackie Bentley, D.V.M. ’95; Donald Bruno, D.V.M. ’87; Jorge Colon ’92, D.V.M. ’95; Mara DiGrazia ’92, D.V.M. ’96; Patricia Erickson ’92, D.V.M. ’97; John Fieger, D.V.M. ’16; Scott Kaplan, D.V.M. ’86; Malcolm Kram, D.V.M. ’74; Edward Mackillop ’00, D.V.M. ’04; Pasquale Meleleo, D.V.M. ’08; Mark Olcott, D.V.M. ’95; Maritza Perez-Bruno, D.V.M. ’87; Carole Richards, D.V.M. ’07; Grant Richards, D.V.M. ’07; and Lauren Eleanor Witter, M.S. ’15, D.V.M. ’17.

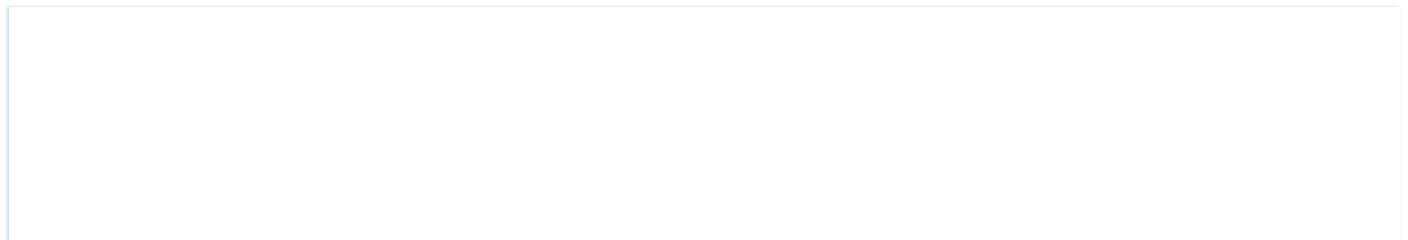
“I enjoy participating in the alumni-student networking event because it helps me reconnect with the college in a more personal way,” said alumna Mara DiGrazia ’92, D.V.M. ’96. “Before it begins, even with over 20 years of experience, I wonder what I could possibly offer them. Within seconds, I always find myself surrounded by eager, inquisitive students interested in things that I had lost interest in. In a flash, the event is over and I leave feeling rejuvenated by the spirit and drive of the Cornell vet student. I greatly appreciate this opportunity and I can see the students love it too!”

“This networking event is a great way to make connections with our wonderful alumni,” added second-year student Liliana Alaniz. “I loved that both students and D.V.M.s were engaging in conversation about future opportunities and current trends in our profession. I look forward to attending next year!”

Said Kram, “I take time out of the annual meeting’s presentations to attend this unique event as it is a way for me to give back to my profession and the college as well as learn of the challenges and interests of today’s students who will become our future leaders.”

Friday, November 9, 2018 - 3:05pm

 Image





Coffee & Conversation, an annual event at the Fall New York State Veterinary Conference that brings alumni and current students together. Photos by Rachel Philipson.

Coffee & Conversa
and current studer





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New course trains veterinary students to protect pollinators

🐾 Wednesday, August 22, 2018 - 8:50am



To assess the health of a hive, a bee veterinarian must look at the comb and the brood, and analyze the behavior of both individual and groups of bees. Photo provided.

Veterinarians are trained to handle patients with four legs, two legs and sometimes no legs – but six legs might pose some new challenges.

Nevertheless, new federal regulations require veterinarians around the country to examine and treat honeybee colonies, and training for this new job is needed. That's why Cornell veterinarian [Dr. Robin Radcliffe](#) partnered with Cornell faculty members to offer the first honeybee health course at Cornell for veterinary students.

"The veterinary field has a lot to offer bee colonies and beekeepers," said Radcliffe. "And there is a real need here in New York state as well."

Honeybees are crucial for New York's agricultural economy. Crops such as apples, grapes and strawberries rely completely on pollination – leaving an estimated \$383.5 million per year in the “hands” of the hive. Increasingly, these tiny engines of economic productivity have faced growing threats, ranging from hive management practices to climate change.

New York has only two state bee inspectors, placing the onus on individual beekeepers to monitor and maintain colony health. Veterinarians are also now required to prescribe antibiotic treatments to honeybee colonies due to a 2016 U.S. Food and Drug Administration directive categorizing honeybees as food-producing livestock.

Radcliffe's course takes a more holistic view of the hive. “The goal of our course is to show veterinarians that they should not approach this as just providing a pharmacy for beekeepers,” he said. “Our approach is to emphasize that veterinarians have a lot of skills to offer, and that includes understanding infectious disease, pathology, the parasites and their life cycles, as well as bee anatomy and physiology.” The course will be offered each year to roughly a dozen second-year veterinary students. Ninety students requested to take it this summer.



William Fugina, fourth-year veterinary student and teaching assistant for the course, demonstrates the proper attire and frame holding technique to evaluate the frames of a hive. Photo provided.

Said William Fugina, a fourth-year veterinary student and teaching assistant for the course: “It is a completely novel area of veterinary medicine that is not only unexplored, but also has extremely important agricultural and conservation implications. My passion in wildlife conservation and public health certainly resonates with the veterinary role for the honeybee.”

Radcliffe has always had a keen interest in honeybees. This passion eventually connected him with honeybee expert [Thomas D. Seeley](#), the Horace White Professor of Biology, and other bee researchers across the campus. Radcliffe and Seeley devised a novel method of locating wild honeybee trees in deep forest, a method that they

published in the August issue of [American Bee Journal](#), and which Radcliffe wrote about in the June issue [New York State Conservationist](#).

These collaborations have informed Radcliffe's new course. "The idea that veterinary medicine could be a part of training for bee health is kind of new," said Radcliffe, noting that honeybee health has been a part of veterinary programs in South America but the concept is relatively foreign to North American veterinary medical colleges.

Beyond the fact that bees are invertebrates and possess many different physiological systems compared with vertebrates, honeybee care is "more herd health, and has a lot of parallels to population medicine and public health. Our patient is not the single bee, but the whole colony – biologically the complex communication and cooperation among bees known as the 'superorganism.'"

Radcliffe teaches students what normal "brood" looks like – the eggs and developing pupae – so they will recognize signs of the American foulbrood, a bacteria that will kill larvae and easily spread from hive to hive. Students are also schooled in the honeybee's greatest foe, the varroa mite. These invasive parasites from China arrived in New York in 1995. They feed off adult bees and their brood, causing the entire colony to weaken and, if left untreated, collapse.

Radcliffe's veterinary students also learn about threats human activity pose to honeybees. The use of harmful insecticides on crops, the rapid shift in food sources due to climate change, and dwindling habitat due to land development add more pressure on honeybees and other pollinators. Today, 75 to 80 percent of all domestic honeybee colonies are transported to California to pollinate almond groves, threatening bees' normal functioning and stressing whole colonies.

"There are many stressors that affect honeybees today. It's a really complex mix of problems," Radcliffe says. Thanks to his new course, Cornell veterinarians will soon be helping to solve them.



A group of veterinary students learn what a healthy hive looks like as Cornell Dyce Laboratory Master Beekeeper Scott McArt demonstrates the proper technique of conducting a health exam on a hive. Photo provided.

By Lauren Cahoon Roberts

This story also appeared in the Cornell Chronicle.

eVETS Connect

Quarterly news for alumni of the [Cornell](#) University College of Veterinary Medicine

[Home](#) [Events](#) Temple Grandin to speak at Cornell Vet

Temple Grandin to speak at Cornell Vet



Photo by Cornell University Brand Communications

Join us on Tuesday, November 13 for special guest lectures from **Dr. Temple Grandin!**

Meet-and-Greet in the hour before each talk. Chat with **Dr. Grandin** and get your book signed!

Bovine Stockmanship

Tuesday, November 13

12-1:15 p.m.

LH 4/5

Understanding Animal Behavior

Tuesday, November 13

4:30-5:45 p.m.

LH 4/5

Can't make it in person? Sign up for the livestream [here](#).

Dr. Temple Grandin is a professor of animal science at Colorado State University, a consultant on animal behavior and autism spokesperson. She was one of the first individuals on the autism spectrum to publicly share insights from her personal experiences. In 2010, Time Magazine listed her as one of their 100 most influential people in the world, and she was the subject of an award-winning biographical film starring Claire Danes. She has also authored over 400 articles in both scientific journals and livestock periodicals on animal handling, welfare and facility design, and her books *Animals in Translation* and *Animals Make Us Human* were both on the New York Times best seller list.

Sponsored by the AABP Student Club and the Cornell Dairy Center of Excellence

No RSVP necessary

For questions or if you need an accommodation to participate in this event please contact

elizabeth.goldberg@cornell.edu

📅 November 8, 2018 📁 Events 🗨 Events, November 2018

Contact Us

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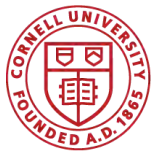
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Alumni Receptions

Veterinary Meeting Expo (VMX)/ Formerly NAVC

January 19-23, 2019

Alumni Reception, January 20

7:00-9:00pm

Hyatt Regency Orlando, Orlando FL

Room: Orlando Ballroom N (Convention Level)

Western Veterinary Conference

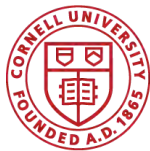
February 17-20, 2019

Alumni Reception - February 18

8:00-9:30pm

Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas NV

Room - Surf F, Level 2



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White Coat Ceremony

Class of 2020 White Coat Ceremony

Saturday, March, 16, 2019

Time	Description of Events
1:15pm -1:30pm	Class of 2020 DVM students arrive to Bailey Hall and go to basement for coat distribution. Line up for ceremony.
1:30pm -1:50pm	Family and friend may mingle with the deans and members of the faculty who will be available for informal conversation in advance of the ceremony in the foyer outside the auditorium.
2:00pm	CEREMONY Ceremony begins, Class of 2020 process in, followed by Dean's welcome. The ceremony includes each student being called by name to the stage accompanied by their coater. The coat is presented to the student. The class recites the Veterinarian Oath. This years' keynote speaker is Dr. Lisa Freeman '86, President of Northern Illinois University Class Photo
4:30pm	RECEPTION Reception immediately following ceremony with light refreshments in CVM Center Takoda's Run Atrium. The ceremony will be live streamed and recorded. Link will be distributed via list serv that you can send out to your remote audience, the week prior to ceremony. Only those with the link will be able to locate the webcast. The same link will become an on-demand file about a half hour after the end of the event. A week later, a high res mp4 file will be available upon request through Student Services at vet_sas@cornell.edu . Handicap Accessibility -Bailey Hall Bailey Hall has a large staircase up to the entrance of the auditorium. . There is an elevator entrance! On Bailey Plaza, while facing the staircase, go left of the building. You will find double glass doors and just inside the doors, immediately to your right- the elevator. It is highly recommended that you drop off guests that have difficulty walking, climbing stairs and are using canes, walkers and wheel chairs at Bailey Hall. There is a large staircase to climb after parking at Forest Home parking garage. Handicap accessible parking is available around Bailey Hall. You may park in these spots as long as you have a handicap parking tag. DO NOT PARK IN SPOTS WITH DESIGNATED LICENSE PLATE NUMBERS; YOU WILL BE TICKETED.



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Reunion

Reunion 2019

Reunion 2019: June 6 - 9

Classes ending in 4s and 9s...the countdown is on!

It's TIME to book your hotel rooms - they are going quickly!

We'll be updating regularly our reunion website, so bookmark it as a favorite or check back often.

Reunion 2018 Memories







