

SVM ALUMNI NEWS

SPRING 2022

NEWS FOR ALUMNI BY ALUMNI OF THE UW SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

A Letter from the SVM Alumni Board:

Exciting changes — and new opportunities — coming in Summer 2022

We are excited to announce the start of a new chapter for the alumni of the UW School of Veterinary Medicine. The SVM Alumni Advisory Board will be transitioning to the executive board of the soon to be launched School of Veterinary Medicine Alumni Association (SVMAA).

As we make this transition, it's great to reflect on where we've been and see where we would like to go...

The Alumni Board started in 2008 with a handful of alumni volunteers. Since then, representatives from every decade of alumni representing a multitude of types of veterinary careers have served on our board. Throughout the process, it has been important to the board to have as much representation of our alumni as possible. The desire to have a means of communication between the school and alumni has also been a driving factor.

The board has helped with fundraising efforts for various projects in the school from the Renk Learning Center to the building expansion project and most recently the "Forward Together" sculpture project that is currently being developed by fellow alumnus **John Hallett DVM'90**. We've worked with the school to help promote alumni reunions and events. We've created this publication featuring news written by alumni for alumni. Over the past two years, the board also launched our Alumni Awards, which have been bestowed upon distinguished graduates from the school's DVM and graduate programs. Another group of recipients will be recognized in fall 2022.

As we continue to move forward, forming an Alumni Association has been the next logical step. We are looking forward to continuing our existing projects as well as setting our sights on new goals. Looking to the future, the board is focusing on new ways to help alumni connect with current students through mentoring programs, supporting efforts to help the school increase diversity, and developing more resources to share with our fellow alumni.

The board believes that alumni play an important role in the SVM community. We are always looking for ways to grow the relationship between the SVM and the alumni. We are looking forward to what the future will bring and hope that you will join us in whatever way you can. We are always looking for new ideas, feedback and volunteers for the board. We want to hear from you (uwsvmalumni@gmail.com).

As we launch the SVMAA, we hope you will support us by joining; membership is free (though a \$60 donation to any SVM fund at the UW Foundation is encouraged). The SVM will be sending out information about how to join soon. We hope you are as proud as we are to be a Badger and a School of Veterinary Medicine graduate.

On, Wisconsin!

Your SVM Alumni Board

Holly Hovanec DVM'18
Diane Larsen DVM'90, PhD'99
Jennifer Lorenz DVM'09

Debra Olbrich DVM'07
Brad Poff DVM'87
Kathy Reilly DVM'90

Ann Sherwood Zieser DVM'90
Ty Vannieuwenhoven DVM'89

Meet Your Alumni Board



Holly Hovanec DVM'18

Holly was convinced to join the SVM Alumni Advisory Board at the UW alumni event during AAEP 2019. She joined the board in 2020, serves as its secretary, and is currently the youngest member of the group.

After graduating from the School of Veterinary Medicine, Holly entered mixed practice in eastern Wisconsin's dairy country, officially launching her career as a "jack of all trades, master of none." After two years of mixed animal medicine, she shifted to primarily large animal practice with a necessary smattering of zoo animals, wildlife, and domestic fowl.

Although she loved the breakneck pace and diversity of private practice, Holly could not squander the opportunity to return to campus and the learning community she loved. Her career recently led her back to Madison, where she accepted the position of clinical veterinarian for the campus

Research Animal Resource and Compliance Center. She now provides care for livestock of all species and sizes, housed on the UW-Madison campus and at UW's satellite farms.

Holly values the opportunities for networking and professional growth within the advisory board (and future SVMAA), and enjoys remaining involved with the SVM's evolution to support the future of veterinary medicine. She is constantly inspired by colleagues and humbled by our profession, considering it a gift to have a career as a veterinarian.

Congratulations to the school's newest alumni!

Eighty-eight newly minted DVMs from the UW School of Veterinary Medicine's Class of 2022 celebrated their graduation during the in person campus commencement ceremony and the SVM's investiture program May 13-14, 2022.

