



ALUMNI E-NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

January/February 2024



Nominations now open for the 2024 SVM Alumni Awards

Do you know an outstanding UW School of Veterinary Medicine graduate? Nominate them for an SVM Alumni Award! Launched in 2019, the awards recognize fellow alumni who've made significant contributions to society, and whose accomplishments, affiliations, and careers honor the legacy of excellence at the school. Three award categories provide opportunities for alumni of both the DVM and graduate degree programs to be recognized.

[Learn More](#)

Chancellor Mnookin visits SVM and UWVC



UW Chancellor Jennifer Mnookin recently met with students, faculty, and staff to learn more about our work training the next generation of veterinarians and researchers, providing exceptional care at UW Veterinary Care, and advancing research that benefits both animals and humans

School News

The latest updates from faculty and staff, and other happenings at the school.

With **Mark D. Markel** stepping down from his position as SVM dean this summer, the search for his successor is well underway. Finalists in the SVM Dean search will visit campus in mid- to late-February to meet with faculty, staff and students. Finalist names will be announced publicly 48 hours before their campus visit. A recording of their presentations will be made public shortly after their visit and will remain available until 48 hours after the visit of the last finalist.

Congratulations to the following five scholars who graduated in December with their master's or doctoral degrees from our top-ranked Comparative Biomedical Sciences graduate program:

- **Hannah Martin Brinkman**, Ph.D (Mentor Dr. William Murphy)
- **Rachel Hildebrand**, Ph.D (Mentor Dr. Adel Talaat)
- **Srikanth Aravamuthan**, Ph.D (Mentor Dörte Döpfer)
- **Ashley Peterson**, Ph.D (Mentor Dr. Anna Huttenlocher)
- **Brian Anton**, MS (Co-Mentors Drs. Joan Jorgensen and Gavin Dehnert)

Czar's Promise presented SVM medical oncologists **Xuan Pan** and **Han-Yun Cheng** with a gift to continue their clinical research on treatments for feline lymphoma. Czar's Promise has supported companion animal cancer research at the SVM since 2018, supporting six research projects.

The National Academy of Inventors named **Yoshihiro Kawaoka** (pathobiological sciences) to its 2023 class of fellows. Kawaoka holds an impressive portfolio of 52 U.S. and 171 international patents related to virology and infectious diseases. He joins seventeen other inventors from the university who have previously received this honor. [Read more](#). Kawaoka was also recognized during a recent investiture ceremony by SVM Dean Mark D. Markel and Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation CEO Erik Iverson. Kawaoka has held the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation Professorship in Recombinant Influenza Viruses since 2006.

Freya Mowat (surgical sciences) and her team published a study about screen interaction behavior in companion dogs in the journal *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*. The goal of the study was to determine factors that influence a dogs' interest in interacting with video content and to see if age or vision were related to this behavior. Ultimately, Mowat hopes the information gleaned from this study and others will one day help in developing more sensitive ways for veterinarians to assess vision in dogs. [Read more](#)

Robert Lipinski, DVM '08, (comparative biosciences) and his team published the following article in *PNAS*: "Disruption of DNA methylation-mediated cranial neural crest proliferation and differentiation causes orofacial clefts in mice." This study uncovers new information about orofacial development in mice that researchers believe could one day help reduce the risk of these birth defects in humans. [Read more](#)

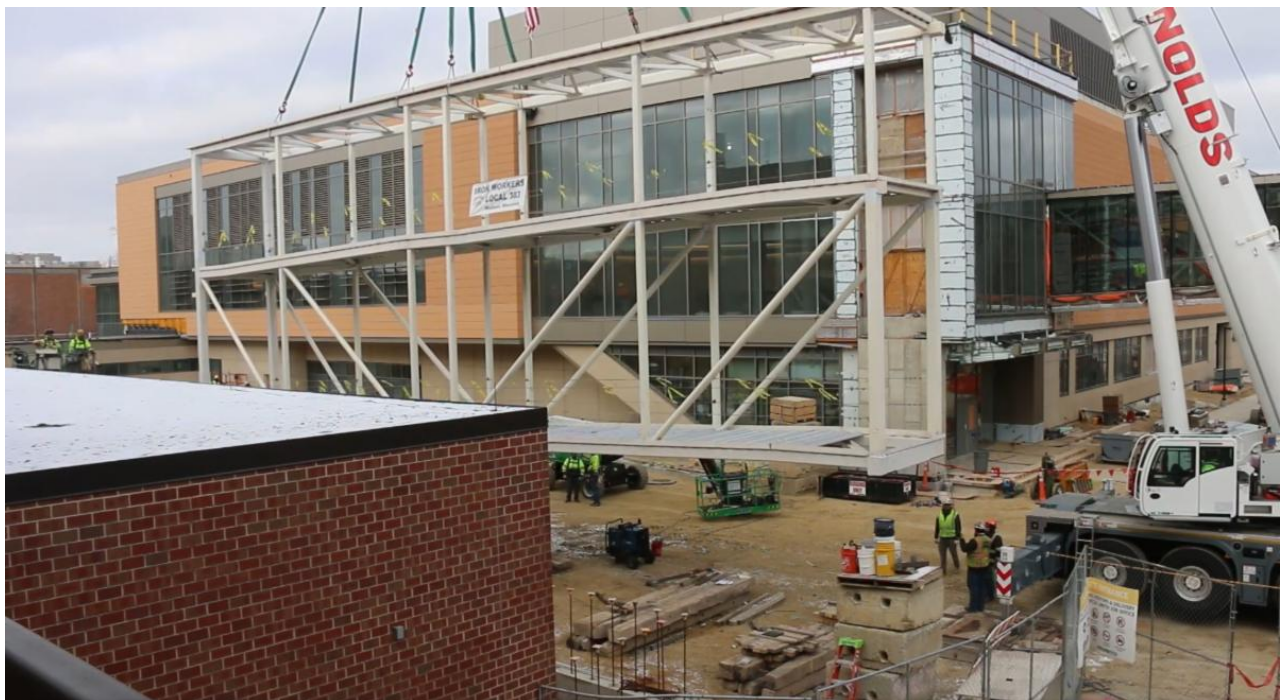
Joan Jorgensen, DVM '93 (comparative biosciences) is the co-PI of a new 3 year grant from The Wisconsin Partnership Program Collaborative Health Sciences Program. The title of the grant is "*Effects of Puberty Blockade on Behavior, Brain and Reproductive Physiology in an Animal Model.*" The project aims to understand the biological mechanisms of adolescent anxiety and depression during puberty, as well as the physiological, developmental, and behavioral impacts of hormone treatment.

New SVM research led by **Marulasiddappa Suresh** (pathobiological sciences) advances our understanding of how mRNA vaccines protect the lungs following breakthrough infections from emerging variants of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. [Learn More](#).

Troy Hornberger (Comparative Biosciences) received a grant from Novo Nordisk (the Greenhouse Co-Creation Award), focused on improving muscle health. His team will investigate how the cellular response differs between resistance and endurance training and determine how to put the growth-promoting effects of resistance exercise into a bottle.

Barry Hartup, DVM '93 (surgical sciences, emeritus) was awarded the L.H. Walkinshaw Crane Conservation Award by the North American Crane Working Group at their 16th workshop in October. The Working Group recognized his career contributions to the research, management, and conservation of sandhill and endangered whooping cranes.

Connector installed between North and South Buildings



Marking a milestone in our building expansion and renovation project, the connector between the school's current (South) building and the new North building was recently raised into place! This bridge will ultimately provide a two-story covered connector between the two buildings for students, staff, and faculty.



SVM in the News

Keith Poulsen, DVM '04, PhD '13, (medical sciences/WVDL), and **Jessica Pritchard** (medical sciences), were interviewed by various news outlets about the atypical canine respiratory illness impacting dogs across the country:

- [Wisconsin State Journal](#)
- [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#),
- [WISN TV](#)
- [Wisconsin Public Radio](#)

Freya Mowat (surgical sciences) was featured in multiple news stories about her research on screen interaction behavior in companion dogs, including the following:

- [Newsweek](#)
- [Wisconsin Public Radio](#)
- [Channel3000](#)

Tony Goldberg (pathobiological sciences) was featured in [a story on Nature.com](#) about his chimpanzee research at Kibale National Park in Uganda.

Lyric Bartholomay, PhD '04 (pathobiological sciences) was a guest earlier this month on the [Radiolab podcast](#) to discuss the science of mosquito "bites." Her segment starts at 29:41.



All alumni and their families are welcome
as we celebrate graduates from the classes of
1989 • 1994 • 1999 • 2004 • 2009 • 2014 • 2019

Alumni Reunion

JUNE 22, 2024

MADISON, WISCONSIN

REGISTER TODAY

www.vetmed.wisc.edu/alumni-reunion

Upcoming Events

February 19

WVC Conference/Alumni reception

Las Vegas, NV

Border Gill in Mandalay Bay

7-9 pm

RSVP by February 12 to

Kristi.Thorson@wisc.edu

