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Message from the Dean | January 2017

## Welcome to 2017

Happy New Year! I hope everyone is having a wonderful holiday.

It has been a long road, but the Renk Learning Center is on track to open later this winter. When you have an opportunity, please stop by and take a tour of the facility and see for yourself its expansive active integrated learning classroom, clinical skills training center, and other student support and learning spaces. At last, the solar panels are long gone, and the south side of the Veterinary Medicine Building looks dramatically better.



Last month I announced the departure of Cathy George, my assistant, and I am pleased to announce we have hired her successor, Julie Parkinson. We are glad to welcome her to our team.

This past semester we had several successful faculty hires across all four departments (see Faculty and Staff News below). I am also pleased to announce that the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents approved the final two years of the school's tuition proposal, which will grow the scholarship support for our students by an additional \$1 million per year and put the school on a stable foundation for the coming years. As for 2017, may it be a happy and productive year for all of you!

## UW Veterinary Care Updates from the Director

Several new staff have joined our team. Welcome to Maria Jesson and Debra Alt, new to our reception staff; Betty Hoff and Julie Walsh, new CVT's in our critical care unit; Molly Sehloff, our new CVT in anesthesia; and Stana Hanson, our new radiographer.

Congratulations to Kate Irvine, one of our clinical pathology residents, for receiving the **2016 Young Investigator Award** from the American Society for Veterinary Clinical Pathology (ASVCP).



I am pleased to announce that we now have [online bill pay](#) and [pharmacy refill](#) options for our clients. My thanks to Meenu Verma and Jim Budde as well as Rebecca Sandee, Bret Solberg, and other members of the school's IT staff for making this happen.

This month's comment from a happy client:

"Our experience at our physical therapy appointment was fantastic. It was great that Dr. Bleedorn was able to stop by our appointment in order to see how my dog is progressing from her treatment. I appreciated the communication between Dr. Bleedorn and Dr. Arnoldy about my dog's unique injury and how best to proceed with her treatment plan together."

--Rachael, Middleton, Wis.

Ruthanne Chun  
Director, [UW Veterinary Care](#)  
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs

## School News

Last month, the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory identified the influenza A strain involved in an outbreak among cats in a New York City animal shelter as low pathogenic avian influenza H7N2, a rare subtype that has not been found previously in domestic felines. Our Shelter Medicine Program has been working closely with the shelter and the NYC health department to manage the situation. [Read more.](#)

The school's partnership with the International Crane Foundation was [featured on their website](#) last month. One of our students and members of our faculty worked with ICF to get to the bottom of a medical issue affecting Belmont, a hooded crane.



## Student News

Congratulations to Alex Harvey DVMx'19 for winning first place in the student poster contest at the annual meeting of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists.

Congratulations to Sarah Appleby DVMx'18 for earning a \$5,000 award through the Merck Animal Health/AAEP Foundation scholarship program and to Holly Brown DVM'16 for receiving a \$4,000 Zoetis/AAEP Foundation scholarship. [Read more.](#)

## Faculty and Staff News

Welcome to the following new faculty and staff: Michael Cahill (assistant professor, Comparative Biosciences); Christina DeMiguel (clinical instructor, Surgical Sciences); Christina Frank (counselor, Academic Affairs); and Mostafa Zamanian (assistant professor, Pathobiological Sciences).

Congratulations to Jon Bach, who has been promoted to clinical associate professor, and Jorge Osorio, who has been promoted to professor.

Moones Heidari has **received the Mark Rowe Award** from the Australasian Neuroscience Society. Well done!

After 32 years of exceptional service to the SVM Business Services Office, Phil Breunig has decided to retire. Thank you and best wishes!

Nan Faith has been granted emeritus status in recognition of her contributions to the university. Congratulations!

## Research News

Yoshihiro Kawaoka and his team have developed technology that could **improve the production of vaccines** that protect people from influenza B. The new technology allows producers to grow vaccine viruses at high yield in mammalian cell culture rather than eggs, which can speed up production and help create more effective vaccines.



Congratulations to Lyric Bartholomay who, in cooperation with Susan Paskewitz in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, has secured a nearly \$10 million grant from the Centers for Disease Control to establish the Upper Midwestern Center of Excellence in Vector-borne Disease on the UW-Madison campus. The regional collaboration of universities and public health agencies will work to improve the management, surveillance, prevention, and study of mosquito- and tick-borne diseases in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, and Iowa. This includes Zika, West Nile, and Lyme disease. More details will be coming next month.

Here's a **round-up of research grants** and awards secured by other members of our faculty.

## Upcoming Events

### Dean's Get-together

Jan. 13, 2017  
4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Second Floor Lounge  
Veterinary Medicine Building  
[More](#)

### Feline Club Fundraiser: Paint Your Pet

Jan. 14, 2017  
9 a.m. - noon and 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Veterinary Medicine Building  
[More](#)

For more SVM-related events, visit the school's [online calendar](#).

## SVM in the News

### Did Your Flu Come from Your Cat?

*Seeker*

### UW Obtains Needle Arthroscope, Portable ECG for Horses

*The Horse*

### Blue Sky Science: Can All Mosquito Species Transmit the Zika Virus?

*Wisconsin State Journal*

**The Trail Was Way Too Short for Bertie**  
*Wausau Daily Herald*

For more media coverage of the SVM, visit the school's [In the News](#) page.



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