



MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



July 2022

A Great Beginning to the Summer

I have terrific news to share. This past week, we heard from the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education, which granted the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine full accreditation status for the next seven years. No major or minor deficiencies were noted.



I would like to thank everyone who was involved in the creation of our self-study, as well as those who participated in the accreditation site visit this past January. The school received a significant number of compliments on all that we do. We will need to address some minor issues, but none are overly difficult, and I have total confidence in our ability to manage them.

This past Saturday, June 25, we hosted the school's [alumni reunion](#) for the classes from 1987 through 2017 (in five-year increments). To note, this was our first 35th class reunion! We had over 180 people in attendance and, although the weather wasn't fantastic, everybody had a very enjoyable experience. Thank you to Kristi Thorson and our entire team for all that they did in support of this special day.

Our expansion and renovation project continues to progress, with us nearing the halfway mark of construction on the addition. It's hard to believe that in a little more than a year, the north building will be completed and we will begin moving into our new facilities. I want to thank everyone for their patience during the construction process. I know there have been many times, particularly in the south building, where the work has been disruptive, but everyone has pulled together to ensure we can continue to work and learn in these spaces despite some disruptions.

I hope you each have a fantastic remainder of your summer, and I wish you an upcoming happy Fourth of July.

UW Veterinary Care Updates from the Director

Welcome to new employees **Gail Adank**, a medical records/clerical assistant; **Nicole Bruns**, client care liaison for neurology and dermatology; **Kira Fisher**, vet assistant in large animal surgery; **Elena Kosteck-Sengstock**, lab technician with necropsy; **Megan Marx**, vet assistant; **Joseph McGarvie**, a technician joining anesthesia; **Marsha Murray**, pharmacy technician; **Nate Newby**, an inventory coordinator with the purchasing office; and **Diane Vanderbloemen**, sterile instrument technician with Central Supply.



And congratulations to **Michelle Albino**, who begins a new role as supervisor of the newly renamed Client Services (formerly known as call center and medical records).

Congratulations also to **Shelby Williams**, pharmacy manager for UW Veterinary Care, who was honored with the Outstanding Educator Award at the annual [Society of Veterinary Hospital Pharmacists](#) meeting last month.

Your compassion and expertise make an impact daily on our patients and clients, as the below recent client comment shows. Thank you.

"Your staff and vets are amazing, very helpful and kind, very knowledgeable in up-to-date veterinary medicine." -Nancy

Christopher Snyder, DVM, DAVDC
Director, [UW Veterinary Care](#)
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs

From the Archives



Linda Sullivan DVM'87, professor emerita with the UW School of Veterinary Medicine, who passed away in February 2022, was recently honored in a [Madison Magazine article](#) sharing her lifetime of achievements through classroom teaching, volunteer efforts and charitable initiatives.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion News

An update from Richard Barajas, director of diversity, equity and inclusion

The UW School of Veterinary Medicine hosted the Iverson Bell Midwest Regional Diversity

Summit in May, the first time a site other than the summit's two founding colleges of veterinary medicine, Purdue and Michigan State University, have held the event. The summit brought in over 140 students, faculty and staff from more than 13 universities across the country. [Read about some of the highlights.](#)

Faculty and Staff News

Following preference balloting by departmental members, **Gillian McLellan** (Surgical Sciences), **Nigel Cook** (Medical Sciences), **Jyoti Watters** (Comparative Biosciences) and **Kristen Bernard** (Pathobiological Sciences) will continue to serve as chairs of their respective departments.

Congratulations to **Leandro Teixeira**, associate professor, Department of Pathobiological Sciences, and Director of the Comparative Ocular Pathology Laboratory of Wisconsin, who has been appointed as the recipient of the Richard R. Dubielzig Professorship in Comparative Ocular Pathology.

Welcome to **Mark Siebert**, a counselor with the school's Personal and Wellness Support Services (PAWSS), who starts July 5. Siebert completed his internship at PAWSS during the 2019-20 academic year as part of his graduate degree in counseling psychology. For the past two years, he has worked at Journey Mental Health Center. Siebert fills the role previously held by **Shelly Wissink**. For the past 11 years, Wissink had a significant contribution to the SVM by providing mental health care and support for students, and teaching communication and other professional skills. We wish her the best in her future.

Farewell to **Kerry Ludke**, former department administrator with the Department of Comparative Biosciences, who begins a new opportunity with the university's Wisconsin IceCube Particle Astrophysics Center.

Student News

Welcome to new Ross and St. George's University students who began their clinical year with the UW School of Veterinary Medicine in June and join the Class of 2023: **Zoe Maglaris**, **Johana Maldonado-Ross**, **Samantha Oldenburg**, **Ashley Phillips**, **Joon Ra** and **Paulina Samaniego**.

DVM students **Lisa Kim** and **Keegan Lim** from the Class of 2024 are organizing an outreach event for K-12 students of color on July 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the UW School of Veterinary Medicine, held in partnership with the non-profit organization [MAYDM](#) and SVM student organizations. SVM faculty and staff are invited to take part in a range of demonstrations, lab-based activities, and a Q&A panel with veterinary medical personnel of color. [Share your interest in participating.](#)

Research News

The Vaccine Against Canine Cancer Study (VACCS) has [completed full enrollment](#) with 800 dogs, making it the largest interventional canine clinical trial in the history of veterinary medicine. The UW School of Veterinary Medicine is one of three leading canine oncology centers to conduct the double-blinded trial. [The study](#), testing a vaccine aimed at broadly preventing cancers in dogs, just completed year three of the planned five-year trial.

A research team including School of Veterinary Medicine professors **M. Suresh** and **Yoshihiro Kawaoka** has [received a Collaborative Health Sciences Program grant award](#) from the Wisconsin Partnership Program for the proposal Rediscovering Rheumatoid Factor as a Unique Antiviral Agent in COVID-19.



Ginger, one of two teaching cows at the UW School of Veterinary Medicine, smiles for the camera during a visit by UW–Madison’s next chancellor, **Jennifer Mnookin**, far left, who toured the school and UW Veterinary Care as part of an eight-day [visit to campus and the community](#) in June. (Photo: Jeff Miller/UW–Madison)

Upcoming Events

July 27

Ice Cream Social

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Hanson Biomedical Sciences Building

[More](#)

August 9

SVM Education Day: Critical Thinking to Clinical Reasoning

8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Dejope Hall

[Register](#)

August 19

Dean’s Get Together

4:30-6:30 p.m.

School of Veterinary Medicine

[More](#)

September 16

Dean’s Get Together

4:30-6:30 p.m.

School of Veterinary Medicine

[More](#)

SVM in the News



[UW School of Veterinary Medicine Is Paving the Way for Healthier Animals, People and the Planet](#)

Madison Magazine

[Not Just for the Birds: Avian Influenza Is Also Felling Wild Mammals](#)

The New York Times

[T Cells Protect Against COVID-19 in Absence of Antibody Response](#)

“Demonstrate that these loud noises are not doing anything and are not dangerous. If you are relaxed, they are relaxed.”

-Maria Verbrugge DVM'03, clinical instructor of primary care, discussing ways to mitigate dogs' responses to thunderstorms and fireworks or avoid a negative association in the first place. Verbrugge [shares several tips to help dogs](#) form a positive response to these loud noises or deal with noise anxiety.

