

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

March 2023

Spring Is Supposed To Be Around the Corner

Happy almost spring! I'm sure our students are looking forward to their spring break that's coming soon, and I hope all students have a great week.

At our February faculty meeting, we had the opportunity to present the Modified Pass/Fail proposal from the PREPARE Graduates Task Force that will accompany our new curriculum. After a robust discussion and subsequent Qualtrics survey, the proposal passed. I look forward to the school implementing the concept when our new curriculum launches.



I've had several opportunities to visit with faculty and at least one of our departments about curricular revision. It's been a pleasure hearing many of our faculty and staff's opinions and viewpoints around how best to move forward with a new curriculum to benefit our students.

As I highlighted in [my last dean's message](#), the current curricular revision process is being led by a team of faculty and staff from each of the school's four departments. This "Nimble Working Group," co-chaired by Eric Sangren and Ellison Bentley, will flush out each of our first eight modules in the first two phases of our proposed curriculum. I look forward to continued robust discussion and feedback as each of these modules are created and modified with your input.

As I'm certain you've heard, it was a sad day this past month when we learned that [former Chancellor Becky Blank passed away](#) on February 17. She was an amazing friend of the school and a powerful leader of the UW-Madison campus. My heart reaches out to Becky's family and all who knew and cared for her.

Have a great March and upcoming spring break.

UW Veterinary Care Updates from the Director

Welcome to new employees **Abram Espe**, **Jessica Minor** and **Pamela Wittenwyler**, all veterinary technician assistants with the large animal hospital; **Vivienne Montony**, a certified veterinary technician joining the hospital's anesthesia service; and **Hayley Pooler**, beginning a new role for the hospital as veterinary staff training specialist.

And shout out to our reception team, who garnered this recent note of praise from a client. Everyone's efforts make a difference for our hospital clients, patients and colleagues.



"They see hundreds of people with their sick pets and they always remember us and treat us like we are the only patients in the world." -Katie

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

From the Archives



The first day of spring is a few weeks away, meaning we're inching ever closer to seeing green scenes such as this, captured at the school's entrance 20 years ago in 2003.

School News



Scout, a golden retriever familiar to the UW School of Veterinary Medicine community, made a cameo in this year's WeatherTech Super Bowl commercial. Though Scout has passed away, his legacy continues. Since Scout's cancer treatment journey was first shared globally in WeatherTech's 2020 Super Bowl commercial, more than a million dollars have been raised towards UW School of Veterinary Medicine [efforts to better diagnose, treat and prevent cancer](#).

The UW-Madison Global Health Institute, directed by School of Veterinary Medicine Professor **Jorge Osorio**, in February signed a bilateral agreement in New Delhi with the Ella Foundation to [establish the first-ever UW-Madison One Health Center](#) in Bangalore, India. The center is expected to be operational by the end of 2023. It will advance the development and production of new vaccines for India; enable collaboration across disciplines and geographic boundaries; provide Indian students and researchers access to UW expertise and training; and build

research capacity in India.

Nominations are now open for the 2023 [UW School of Veterinary Medicine Alumni Awards](#). The awards recognize graduates who have made significant contributions to society and whose accomplishments, affiliations and careers have honored the legacy of excellence at the school. Three award categories provide opportunities for both DVM and graduate degree program alumni to be recognized. Nominations are due **April 1**.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion News

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

- A module on microaggressions prepared by Richard Barajas was released March 1 as part of the American Veterinary Medical Association's new [Journey for Teams initiative](#). The modules consist of 15-minute interactive experiences that allow teams to explore, discuss and better understand diversity, equity and inclusion topics. Other modules cover the power of diversity, unconscious or implicit biases, and psychological safety.
- The school's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Advocate Students held a spring potluck on Feb. 27 at the SVM – an opportunity for the school community to enjoy a meal together while celebrating diversity.

Faculty and Staff News

Clinical Professor **Ruthanne Chun** will be recognized at UW–Madison's 15th Outstanding Women of Color Awards Reception on March 2 as a 2022-23 honoree. The event takes place from 5 to 7:30 p.m. in Varsity Hall at Union South. You can [register to attend the reception](#) or [watch the ceremony online](#). This annual event celebrates the accomplishments of some of the amazing women of color in the UW–Madison community who go above and beyond in the pursuit of excellence and make important contributions to our community.

Student News

Congratulations to the UW School of Veterinary Medicine chapter of Veterinarians as One Inclusive Community for Empowerment (VOICE), [recognized with VOICE's National Programming Excellence Award](#) for their work in the 2022-23 school year. The award, presented at the VOICE National Conference at Kansas State University, is given to a chapter that exemplifies VOICE's purpose through event and program creation. The chapter executive board includes **Allie Hoerth**, president; **Abby Rothering**, vice president; **Lisa Kim**, interprofessional diversity initiative chair; **Nicholas Marino**, secretary; **Krista Li**, treasurer; **Stephanie Yopp**, social media chair; and Professor **Joan Jorgensen**, advisor.

A Day in the Life



UW School of Veterinary Medicine faculty members Christopher Olsen, Keith Poulsen, Ryan Breuer and JR Lund, from left to right, offered a first-of-its-kind training program for Emergency Management and Research Institute (EMRI) veterinarians in Hyderabad, India, in December 2022. The [Training in Emergency Animal Care and Handling \(TEACH\) program](#) builds on a long-time UW-Madison collaboration and consists of didactic, case-based, laboratory and on-farm training. Next, two EMRI veterinarians will visit the SVM this month.

Upcoming Events

March 17

Dean's Get Together: Breakfast with Sally
7:30-9 a.m.
School of Veterinary Medicine

March 31

**Committee on Academic and Staff Issues
Forum: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**
Noon
School of Veterinary Medicine

April 21

Dean's Get Together
4:30-6 p.m.
School of Veterinary Medicine

April 29

Celebration of Excellence Awards Banquet
6 p.m.
Madison Concourse Hotel

May 11

Dean's Get Together: All School Picnic
11:30-1 p.m.
School of Veterinary Medicine

June 24

Alumni Reunion
Veterinary Medicine Building
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
[More](#)

SVM in the News

[Scout, a Dog Treated at Uw-Madison, Appears in Super Bowl Ad](#)
Wisconsin State Journal

['Major Leap' in Bird Virus Threatens Yet Another Pandemic](#)
The Daily Beast



Queery: Bill And Michelle Talk Veterinary
Medicine
WORT 89.9 FM

Where's the Beef? UW-Madison Scientists
Develop, Research Artificial Meat
Channel 3000

**“If we look at cancer in multiple species, we
may be able to solve it quicker.”**

*-David Vail, professor and Barbara A. Suran Chair in Comparative Oncology at the UW School of Veterinary
Medicine, [speaks with WISC-TV](#) about the school's collaborative cancer research.*

