



# VTPB TRACKS

## Message from the Department Head:

Season's Greetings Faculty, Staff and Students

The theme of our newsletter this month is excellence in teaching. This is the most critical role we play in this college and in this department. The College of Veterinary Medicine was founded in 1916 to provide an education in veterinary medicine to selected students. Again, I stress that the veterinary curriculum is the reason that our program exists and I keep this front in center in my mind. Over the years we have also developed critical roles in graduate education, and advanced training for veterinarians in specialty areas such as anatomic pathology, clinical pathology and clinical microbiology. Most recently, our college had a vision and developed a new undergraduate program in biomedical science which is now the largest granting degree program in our university. Our department's faculty members teach more than a dozen key courses in the BIMS program. Thus, we each have critical roles to play in all three theaters of education, undergraduate, professional and graduate. We thank each of you for your dedication to excellence in education and for your genuine desire to produce the best graduates.

At this time of year I encourage everyone to count our blessings. We are blessed with a strong leadership team in this college and can look forward to a bright future for our programs in education and research. We were graced with the opportunity to provide some salary equity and modest merit raises this year. We are fortunate to have the opportunity to develop new teaching and research facilities to serve our needs for the next 100 years with our new teaching building initiative! In this recent national economic climate, things actually look pretty inviting here at Texas A&M!

Wishing you all a Happy Holiday!



Texas A&M University  
Department of  
Veterinary Pathobiology

### Special Points of

#### Interest:

- > VTPB Professors Spotlight
- > Farewell to our Iraqi Visitors
- > Presentations
- > Halloween Party Photos
- > Holiday Luncheon Photos

### Inside this issue:

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## FACULTY CORNER...

### “TEACHERS CREATE ALL OTHER PROFESSIONS”

(Author Anonymous)

The focus in this fall newsletter is on the teachers in Veterinary Pathobiology. Teachers in this department teach at all levels: undergraduate, graduate, professional, and residents. Teaching includes not only classrooms and laboratories, but meetings with groups, field trips and mentoring one-on-one.

All faculty in Veterinary Pathobiology have teaching responsibilities, different each semester, and based on percentage of assigned teaching effort. Here are some examples of our excellent teachers communicating and interacting with students at each level this fall semester. We will be featuring others in upcoming newsletters.

#### Undergraduate:

**Ian Tizard, Suzanne Burnham:** (221) Great Diseases of the World. Study of great infectious and parasitic diseases; introduction to the major diseases affecting humans and other mammals including plague, tuberculosis, AIDS and malaria.



**Judith Ball:** (489) Special topics course in Cell Processes.



**Graduate:**

**James Derr:** Lab Meeting with Graduate Students pursuing a degree in the field of molecular genetics of mammals including; characterization of genetic traits and disease, population and conservation genetics, and the evolution of genes and genomes at the nucleotide level in domestic and wild populations





## FACULTY CORNER...

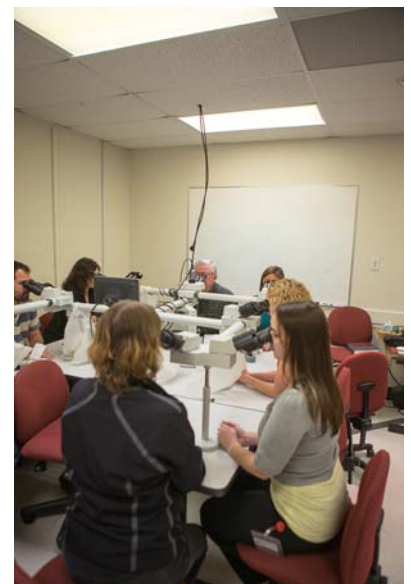
### Professional:

**Tom Craig:** (920) Parasitology. Study of taxonomy, biological and clinical aspects of the commonly occurring helminth, protozoan and arthropod parasites of domestic and laboratory animals; Signs, pathogenesis, diagnosis, treatment, prevention, and control, public health and economic importance of parasitic diseases.



### Residents:

**Roy Pool:** Histopathology Training Seminar for Pathology Residents, Lecture topic for the day: "Diagnosis of Biopsies from Bone Tumors."



### Field Trips:

**Maria Esteve-Gassent:** Escorted 10 Hispanic students from Texas A&M University to San Antonio, TX. in October to participate in the Latinos in Agriculture Meeting. This will help create networking with USDA and other University leaders to better prepare them for future job opportunities.

### Continuing Education:

**Judith Ball:** Participated in the AgriLife Leadership Training Program in Dallas, TX, November 12-16.

**Jeffrey Musser:** Invited by USDA to participate in the Foreign Animal Disease Instruction Course in Long Island, NY, Dec. 2-8.

### *Congratulations to Faculty:*

**Blanca Lupiani:** was named as a 2012-13 SEC Academic Leadership Program Fellow. The SEC Academic Leadership Development Program (ALDP) is a professional development program that seeks to identify, prepare and advance academic leaders for roles within SEC institutions and beyond. Dr. Lupiani attended a workshop Oct. 15-17 at the [University of Tennessee](http://www.ut-knox.edu) in Knoxville.

### *Congratulations to Residents*

**Jennifer Cook,** Clinical Pathology, won the Young Investigator Award in Clinical Pathology at the American College of Veterinary Pathology Meeting in Seattle WA, December, 2012.

**Kristin Eden,** Anatomic Pathology, platform presentation won the ACVP/AAVLD Travel Award in Diagnostic Pathology and poster won a 3<sup>rd</sup> place Young Investigator Award in Diagnostic Pathology at the American College of Veterinary Pathology Meeting in Seattle WA, December, 2012.

**Kristin Eden,** and **Sarah Schneider,** Anatomic Pathology, received Graduate student/Resident ACVP Travel Awards.

**Derick Whitley,** Anatomic Pathology, received the C. L. Davis Resident Award at the American College of Veterinary Pathology Meeting in Seattle, WA, December, 2012.

### *Congratulations to Students:*

**Nora Berghoff, former graduate student of Jörg Steiner, was the 2012 winner of the George Fleming Prize** which commemorates the founder of *The Veterinary Journal*, Professor George Fleming (1833-1901). This prize is awarded for the paper that is considered to be the most meritorious published in the Journal during the year. It is judged on scientific content and originality, style and readability, and contribution to scientific and veterinary knowledge. Nora won this prize with co-authors **Jan S. Suchodolski** and **Jörg M. Steiner** for their article entitled 'Association between serum cobalamin and methylmalonic acid concentrations in dogs' (*The Veterinary Journal* 2012, **191**, 306-311; doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.tvjl.2011.03.005>).



## *“Celebrate Good Times, Come on”*

The traditional Halloween Party was held on October 31 at which faculty, staff and students were recognized for awards, honors and achievements this past year with a PowerPoint presentation. Costumes, “treats,” and even a few “tricks” were shared that day. Prizes were awarded for various costume categories and “good times,” were had by all.



**Jan Elliott**, returned as a working retiree for Dr. James Womack.

**Jaelyn Ly**, Research Assistant for Dr. Aline Rodrigues. She received her B.S. in Microbiology at the University of Texas in 2012 and is currently pursuing a M.P.H. in Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Texas A&M University Health Science Center.

**Guoqing Zhuang**, Postdoctoral Research Associate for Dr. Blanca Lupiani. Dr. Zhuang received a PhD from the University of Beijing in 2010 and was a Postdoctoral Fellow under Dr. Beiyan Zhou in Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology, Texas A&M University from 2010-2012.

### Farewell

It is time to say goodbye to the four Iraqi visiting professors who have been here since August through a program with Borlaug Institute and the USDA Faculty Exchange Program with Iraq. When asked to share a short comment of what it meant to visit Texas and Texas A&M University each replied:

**(Dr. Muneer)** *“Came to know that the world is a small village and I came to know very friendly people. I got advanced knowledge which will be very useful for me and for students in Iraq after I return. The months I spent here with you changed all my life and my vision to become more wide.”*

**(Dr. Isam)** *“It’s a pleasure to me to attend this fall semester in the College of Veterinary Medicine, Texas A&M, and I would like to thank all of you faculty and staff members for the big bulk of information. It’s very helpful for me and my University. I would like to thank you for the generosity & hospitality. Really, I feel now I have a big family in Texas A&M and looking forward to more cooperation. I will keep these pictures & friendship as a treasure for this wonderful time forever.”*

**(Dr. Saleem)** *“New Adventure, New Culture, New Friends”*

**(Dr. Ali)** *“I’m very interested in this visit, because I learned more things about science and people of Texas. I am very thankful for this visit.”*







## Sharing Ideas

### *Around the World*

**Garry Adams**, American Veterinary Medical Association, Member of the Council on Education, accreditation site visit, Université de Montréal Faculté de Médecine Vétérinaire, Saint-Hyacinthe, Québec, Canada, Nov. 4-8..

**Garry Adams**, Invited lecture, "Host:Pathogen Predictive Biology: Reality? Or Myth?" McGill University, Center for Host Resistance, Québec, Canada, Nov. 8-10.

**James Derr**, Met with the South African Predator Association, the Professional Hunters Association of South Africa, the Professional Hunters Association of Zambia, the Namibian Professional Hunters Association and the Zimbabwe Professional Hunters and Guides Association to give presentations on the African Wildlife Conservation; Genetics & Genomics Research project at Texas A&M University and to distribute wildlife DNA collection kits to Professional Hunters and Outfitters, Nov. 14-Dec. 2.

**John Edwards**, presented two seminars: "Lessons about Schmallenberg Virus Learned with Cache Valley Virus" and "Ovarian Pathology for Veterinarians, Pathology 101" at the Seminar of Ongoing Research of the CECAV Pathology and Clinical Sciences Group, and he reviewed the progress of a Masters student's project as one of his committee members at the Veterinary Faculty at University of Trás-os Montes and Alto Douro, Vila Real, Portugal, Nov. 21.

Dr. Edwards also conducted a Scientific Advisory Committee Site Visit for the Portuguese Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia of the Centro de Ciência Animal e Veterinária (CECAV) Veterinary and Animal Research Center on Nov. 22-23.

**Linda Logan**, "Opportunities for collaboration in animal health research at Texas A&M," at the Jiangsu Academy of Agricultural Sciences 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, Nanjing, Jiangsu, P.R. China," presented on Nov 29.

**Waithaka Mwangi**, Conducted some pilot studies at the International Livestock Research Institute project on African Swine Fever virus research, Nov. 9-Dec. 8.

**Dr. Linda Logan, Dr. David Lunt** (Associate Director of AgriLife), **Dr. Shuping Zhang** (Department of Veterinary Pathobiology), **Dr. Joseph M. Awika** (Department of Soil & Crop Sciences), and **Dr. Mengmeng Gu** (Department of Horticultural) visited Jiangsu Academy of Agricultural Science (JAAS) from November 26 to November 29, 2012. Dr. Reneta Ivanek (Department of Veterinary Integrative Biosciences) visited JAAS in the week of November 12<sup>th</sup>. The TAMU group met with the Vice governor of Jiangsu Province, visited the JAAS main campus, two experiment stations, and JAAS vaccine production facility. Dr. David Lunt gave congratulatory remarks in the ceremony for JAAS 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary and spoke on the topic "Agricultural and Life Science Research at Texas A&M". Dr. Logan gave a seminar on "The Research, Teaching, and Service in the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences of Texas A&M University". In her seminar, Dr. Logan also briefly described the functions of FAZD, TVMDL, and Borlaug Center. Dr. Shuping Zhang gave a seminar on "Salmonella Pathogen-Host Interactions: A Never-Ending Story". Drs. Awika and Gu also gave research seminars at JAAS.





## *Around the States*

### September

**Karen Russell**, presented a hematology laboratory at the International Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Symposium in San Antonio, TX.

### October

**Susan Payne**, “Avian Bornaviruses and their Distribution in North American Waterfowl: Emerging Pathogens?” at the 11 Annual Conference on Molecular Epidemiology and Evolutionary Genetics of Infectious Disease, New Orleans, LA.

**Catherine Pfent**, “The Benefits and Challenges of an Online Support Group for Canine Bone Cancer,” at the Veterinary Cancer Society Meeting in Las Vegas, NV.

**Christopher Seabury**, “The Role of Host Genetics in Differential Susceptibility to *Brucella abortus*: A Bovine Model,” at the United States Animal Health Association Meeting, in Greensboro, NC.

**Shuping Zhang**, “Salmonellosis in Animals” and “The Prevalence of Potential Pathogenic Bacteria and Fungi in Bobwhite Quail in the Rolling Plains Ecoregion,” at the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians Meeting in Greensboro, NC.



The following presentations were made at the C. L. Davis Southcentral Division Annual Meeting in Galveston, TX,

**Laura Bryan** "The tale of the lumpy opossum (Besnoitiosis in an opossum.)"

**Jennifer Cook**, "Hypothyroid Crisis in a Dog."

**Kristin Eden**, "Epidermolysis Bullosa in Neonatal Sprague-Dawley Rats: Two Cases."

**Nicolette Jackson**, "A case of collagenofibrotic glomerulopathy in a dog."

**Julie Hilligas**, "Mediastinal mass in a cat."

**Carolyn Hodo**, Phaeohyphomycosis in Loggerhead Sea Turtles (*Caretta caretta*)

**Franklin R. Lopez**, "Disseminated peritoneal leiomyomatosis in a labrador retriever dog."

**Amie Perry**, "Clostridium piliforme Colitis in a Kitten."

**Roy Pool**, "Combined hepatocellular and cholangiocellular carcinoma in a dog."

**Brian Porter**, "Histiocytic sarcoma in the spinal cord of a dog."

**Sarah Schneider**, "Avian Chlamydiosis in a Red-Tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*.)"

**Sabrina Vobornik**, "Eosinophilic Granulomatosis in a Dog."

**Kimberly Wahl**, "Cytomegalovirus in SIV infected rhesus macaques: comparative aspects."

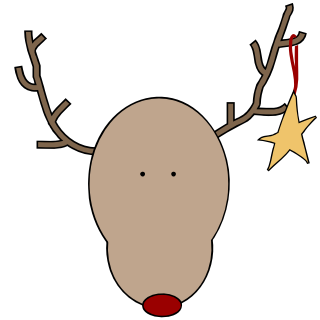


## November

**Scott Dindot**, “Chalk Talk,” with the CVM Postdoctoral Association at The Village Café, Bryan Texas.

**Roy Pool** –was invited to present a case conference on bone pathology for the pathology trainees at the U.S. Army Department of Defense. The 50 minute topics presented at the U. S. Dept. of Defense, Joint Task Force National Capital Region Medical Joint Pathology Meeting in Silver Springs, MD.

**James Womack**, “Variation in Genes of the Innate Immune System in Animals,” at Clemson University, Clemson, SC.



## December

**Garry Adams**, “How Espresso & *Salmonella* Predictive Biology are Related,” invited presentation to the Department of Medical Microbiology & Immunology, School of Medicine, University of California, Davis.

**Donald Brightsmith**, Presented Research to the Phoenix Landing Parrot group in Washington D. C.

**Gloria Conover**, “Role of the Pre-coil Domain of Desmin and its Partnership with Muscle Proteins,” and “Assembly Perturbations in Mutant Desmin Filaments Bound to Nebulin in Desminopathy;” also, two undergraduates, Marc Caragea and Daniel Hernandez, presented research accomplished in Dr. Conover’s lab at the American Society for Cell Biology Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

**Gabriel Gomez**, “Immunogenicity and Protective Efficacy of Brucella Outer Membrane Proteins Identified via a Reverse Vaccinology Approach,” Brucellosis Research Conference, Chicago, IL.



The following presentations were made at the American College of Veterinary Pathologists Meeting in Seattle, WA:

**Platform Presentations:**

**Jennifer Cook**, Third Year Clinical Pathology Resident, “Relationships Between Cerebrospinal Fluid Characteristics, Injury Severity, and Outcome in Canine Spinal Cord Diseases,”

**Kristin Eden**, “Spontaneous Congenital Epidermolysis Bullosa in Sprague Dawley Rats.”

**Carolyn Hodo**, Hypertrophic Osteopathy Associated with Chronic Bacterial Bronchopneumonia in Three White-Tailed Deer (*Odocoileus Virginianus*.) co-authors B.C. Lewis, and R.R. Pool.

**Joanne Mansell**, Chair, Mini-Symposium: “Hiking the Gastrointestinal Range: From the Pathologist/Clinician Basecamp to the Summit of the Latest Research; speaker with Dr. M. Willard on Clinicopathologic Conference of Gastrointestinal cases.”

**Brian Porter**, “Use of a Cell Phone-Enabled Audience Response System for Teaching Pathology in the Veterinary School Classroom.”

**Poster Presentations:**

Cardiomyopathy with Coronary Artery Thrombosis in a Bornean Orangutan, **K.E. Trainor, N. Jackson, R. McManamon, L.J. Lowenstine, L. Howard, J. Flanagan, and F.J. Clubb Jr.**

Spontaneous Congenital Epidermolysis Bullosa in Sprague Dawley Rats, **K.B. Eden, A. Peterson, R. Payne, W.V. Corapi, J. Mansell, and A. Rodrigues.**

Leiomyomatosis in a 17-Month-Old Labrador Retriever, **R. Gold, F. Lopez, D. Ajithdoss, C. Wolff, J. Edwards, and B. Porter.**

Pancreatic Endocrine Tumors in Twelve Baboons (*Papio Spp.*) **M.K. LaRue, E.J. Dick Jr., M.A. Owston, A. Ambrus, and B.F. Porter.**

Spontaneous Congenital Epidermolysis Bullosa in Sprague Dawley Rats **K.B. Eden, A. Peterson, R. Payne, W.V. Corapi, J.Mansell, and A. Rodrigues.**

Multisystemic Phaeohyphomycosis In Two Loggerhead Sea Turtles (*Caretta Caretta*) Associated With Ochroconis Humicola **C.L. Hodo, J.P. Flanagan, B. Higgins, L. Howell, and F.N. Oliveira.**

Chlamydiosis in a Red Tailed Hawk (*Buteo Jamaicensis*): A Case Report **M. O’Brien, S. Schneider, and A. Rodrigues**

Retrospective Evaluation Of Renal Biopsies For Evidence Of Immune-Complex Mediated Glomerular Disease In Dogs **S.M. Schneider, M. Naby, R.E. Cianciolo, F.J. Clubb, Jr., and G.E. Lees**

**Funding the Work**

**Sara Lawhon and Shuping Zhang**, received a grant from DHHS-Food and Drug Administration for “FDA Vet-LRN Site Application.”

Congratulations to **Tina Karkoska** for completing the 2012 Leadership Institute.



## Holiday Luncheon

Our annual holiday luncheon was held on Monday, December 10th in the Mark Francis Room. Everyone enjoyed turkey, ham, dressing, and all the trimmings!



## KEN'S KORNER

### GINGER SNAPS

Recipe courtesy Alton Brown



Rated 4 stars out of 5

**Total Time: 45 min**

Prep: 30 min Cook: 15 min

**Yield:** about 4 dozen cookies

**Level:** Easy



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#### Ingredients

- 9 1/2 ounces all-purpose flour
  - 1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
  - 1 tablespoon ground ginger
  - 1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom
  - 1/2 teaspoon ground clove
  - 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
  - 7 ounces dark brown sugar
  - 5 ounces unsalted butter, at room temperature
  - 3 ounces molasses, by weight
  - 1 large egg, at room temperature
  - 2 teaspoons finely grated fresh ginger
  - 4 ounces finely chopped candied ginger
- Sanding sugar, for sprinkling, optional

#### Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.

In a medium mixing bowl whisk together the flour, baking soda, ginger, cardamom, clove and salt. Place the brown sugar and butter into the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment and beat on low speed until light and fluffy, 1 to 2 minutes. Add the molasses, egg and fresh ginger and beat on medium for 1 minute. Add the crystallized ginger and using a rubber spatula, stir to combine. Add the dry ingredients to the wet and stir until well combined.

With a 2-teaspoon-sized scoop, drop the dough onto a parchment-lined half sheet pan approximately 2 inches apart. Bake on the middle rack of the oven for 12 minutes for slightly chewy cookies or 15 minutes for more crisp cookies. Rotate the pan halfway through cooking.

Remove from the oven, sprinkle with sanding sugar, if desired, and allow the cookies to stay on the sheet pan for 30 seconds before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely. Repeat with all of the dough. Store in an airtight container for up to 10 days. If desired, you may scoop and freeze the cookie dough on a sheet pan and once frozen, place in a resealable bag to store. Bake directly from the freezer as above.





Happy Holidays!!



Good Luck to the  
Aggies at the Cotton  
Bowl!!

BTHO Oklahoma!



# WINTER WORD SEARCH



Created by  
Sue Lindlauf  
Grand Forks Herald  
2010

W	E	A	T	H	E	R	W	G	S	F	P	S	F	M
O	H	J	V	O	L	J	O	N	J	V	H	N	J	J
K	F	R	A	C	S	M	E	O	K	O	L	O	M	G
D	R	H	B	P	T	T	D	P	V	B	P	W	W	N
I	E	L	J	Q	T	O	I	E	L	J	Q	F	O	I
W	E	P	N	I	W	K	L	I	P	N	S	L	K	T
S	Z	Q	M	W	Q	D	S	D	Q	M	F	A	D	A
N	I	A	K	S	B	I	U	W	A	K	F	K	I	K
A	N	S	L	I	D	E	I	S	S	L	U	E	W	S
M	G	W	J	C	D	L	L	A	W	J	M	D	S	W
W	W	X	I	D	S	N	O	W	X	I	R	B	U	X
O	C	C	U	F	D	D	P	C	C	U	A	D	D	C
N	V	D	O	M	G	G	N	I	D	D	E	L	S	D
S	B	E	P	I	C	C	R	E	T	N	I	W	C	E
F	S	L	I	P	P	E	R	Y	R	T	A	H	H	R

See how many of these words you can find in the puzzle. The words can be forward, backward or diagonal.

- |            |              |              |              |
|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Snow    | 5. Shovel    | 9. Slippery  | 13. Scarf    |
| 2. Snowman | 6. Cold      | 10. Slide    | 14. Hat      |
| 3. Winter  | 7. Freezing  | 11. Sledding | 15. Earmuffs |
| 4. Weather | 8. Snowflake | 12. Skating  | 16. Mittens  |