



# Veterinary

executive report

Spring/Summer 2008



World Class. Face to Face.

# \$25 million Gates gift

## launches School for Global Animal Health

# Message from the Dean...

## School for Global Animal Health nears reality



Dean Warwick Bayly

One of the closest kept secrets in the WSU College of Veterinary Medicine can now be told. Under the leadership of WSU President Elson S. Floyd, the vision of creating a School for Global Animal Health is nearer reality. Thanks to the generous gift of \$25 million from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, we have begun work to design a new building and expand the reach of our renowned program in infectious diseases and immunology.

The mission of the school will be to provide innovative solutions to global infectious disease challenges through research, education, global outreach, and application of disease control at the animal-human interface. The College of Veterinary Medicine has developed internationally recognized programs in infectious diseases uniquely focused on the animal-human interface. We seek to transform our existing programmatic strengths into leadership in solving global health challenges.

The proposed School for Global Animal Health will advance disease diagnostics, vaccine development, and the application of science to the formation of public policy to promote novel approaches to disease intervention and delivery of preventive health care for animals and humans.

Our goals:

- **Identify emerging pathogens and disease detection**  
WSU is currently identifying determinants of pathogen emergence that will allow early intervention by healthcare organizations.
- **Control of disease transmission from animals to humans**  
WSU is pursuing innovative solutions for the prevention of zoonotic diseases through vaccination and other strategic interventions in animal populations that reduce pathogen levels below thresholds required for transmission.

- **Vaccine development deployment**

Human health and well-being in less developed countries is dependent on healthy livestock. WSU is creating novel vaccines for control of the major vector-borne diseases of livestock that are a significant impediment to economic development in Africa, Asia, and Central/South America.



Add to this a renewed emphasis on graduate education, where a sizable proportion of the graduate student body will be international and supported by extramural funding, and a key component emerges that will strengthen the global outreach of the school.

Within the School for Global Animal Health, we aim to discover, develop, and deploy innovative solutions for major infectious diseases of animals that directly affect human health and economic development.

We cannot think of a more worthy goal to undertake.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Warwick Bayly'.

Dr. Warwick Bayly  
Dean, WSU College of Veterinary Medicine

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# \$25 Million Gates Foundation Gift Launches WSU School for Global Animal Health

## Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to fund the construction of a state-of-the-art facility focused on infectious disease research

A \$25 million gift from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has been committed to Washington State University toward the construction of a \$35 million state-of-the-art facility focused on infectious disease research that is to become the centerpiece in the University's new School for Global Animal Health. "The link between animal and human health is a strong one, as we have seen time and time again with serious infectious diseases around the world," said Dr. Fil Randazzo of the Gates Foundation in making the award.

The gift represents the largest single private financial commitment in WSU history. "Washington State University's College of Veterinary Medicine is a world-wide leader in research on infectious diseases at the animal-human interface," said WSU President Elson S. Floyd. "The generous support of the Gates Foundation for construction of this important research facility is truly transformational."

Before the project can move forward, WSU must raise an additional \$10 million in matching gifts as part of the Gates Foundation agreement.

The new facility will provide modern research space on Washington State University's Pullman campus to support global animal health research. The building will provide approximately 20,000 assignable square feet of laboratories, office space, and meeting rooms for 12-15 research scientists and their



partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in something as important and far-reaching as global animal and human health."

Washington State University is internationally recognized in infectious disease research, focused uniquely on preventing transmission of animal pathogens. WSU researchers will transform these existing strengths into leadership in solving global health challenges in the School for Global Animal Health.

"The School for Global Animal Health will strengthen existing international partnerships into a sustainable network to develop innovative solutions to major infectious diseases of animals that directly affect human health and economic development," said Dr. Guy Palmer, professor and director of WSU's School for Global Animal Health. "It will complement infectious disease programs in the Puget Sound region and will enhance the leadership of the State of Washington in global health by providing innovative strategies for treatment or eradication of diseases at the animal and environmental level."

The construction of the research laboratory is the first phase in a capital plan for the School for Global Animal Health. In addition to this facility, the long-term capital plan includes additional laboratory space for emerging disease diagnosis, surveillance, and test development.

Guided by the belief that every life has equal value, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation works to help all people lead healthy, productive lives. In developing countries it focuses on improving people's health and giving them the chance to lift themselves out of hunger and extreme poverty. In the United States, it seeks to ensure that all people—especially those with the fewest resources—have access to the opportunities they need to succeed in school and life.



“ Washington State University's College of Veterinary Medicine is a world-wide leader in research on infectious diseases at the animal-human interface. The generous support of the Gates Foundation for construction of this important research facility is truly transformational.”

—WSU President Elson S. Floyd

support staff and graduate students, in a state-of-the-art infectious disease research facility that will be designed and equipped to meet today's standards for investigating emerging diseases.

"The values of WSU's School for Global Animal Health are aligned with the mission of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which is guided by the belief that every life has equal value and that all people should be allowed to lead healthy, productive lives," said Floyd. "We are excited to have this remarkable

# Addicted to Chocolate

## WSU flooded with wishes of good will and speedy recovery

At first glance, Chocolate appears to be an 18-month-old Chesapeake Retriever at WSU's Veterinary Teaching Hospital trying to recover from serious injuries. But a closer look reveals a happy-go-lucky smile that has captured hearts worldwide.

For at least six months, the injured dog was seen wandering through the farm fields north of Pasco, Washington. He suffered from multiple fractures to both of his front legs, and shied away from anyone who tried to befriend him. Chocolate had taught himself to walk by primarily using his back legs. When a good hearted neighbor finally coaxed the big dog in, Chocolate soon found himself at the Meadow Hills Veterinary Clinic in Kennewick, Washington, in the hands of veterinarian Dr. Janine Swailes. X-rays revealed old, abnormally healed fractures in both forelegs. Within 48 hours, a volunteer brought Chocolate to WSU for advanced care.

"The injuries were extreme," said WSU veterinary surgeon Dr. Steve Martinez, who has overseen Chocolate's care. "He reminded



me of a T-Rex in the way he has taught himself to walk, most likely because of the severe pain from his broken bones."

Chocolate's story so captured the hearts of southeastern Washington residents that donations began to pour in, totaling nearly \$30,000 in just a few days for the dog's care, with over 70 families volunteering to adopt him when he has healed.

At WSU, two separate surgeries were needed to realign and strengthen the bones, working to successfully return the range of motion to joints that had been partially fused. Extensive physical therapy required a much greater effort. Fortunately, WSU has recently upgraded its post-operative rehabilitation facilities with a state-of-the-art tool. A new underwater treadmill for physical therapy was purchased and installed with funds from two grateful donors to the college.

"All things considered, Chocolate is doing very, very well," said Dr. Martinez. "The key obstacle has been in rebuilding the lost muscle strength in his front legs and shoulders. We're having some real success."

Despite his painful injuries, the team at WSU says Chocolate has always continued to maintain a happy and even playful attitude. The WSU team hopes to have him strong enough to be released by early summer.



### The Whole World Is Watching Chocolate!

During his stay at WSU's College of Veterinary Medicine, a number of people have sent in terrific messages of good will.

Thank you for all the updates on Chocolate. I check on his progress every day and I'm so happy he is in such good hands.

—Linda, Knoxville, Tennessee

Thank you for all you are doing to help Chocolate. The care and support the WSU Vet School is providing is just another reason I am proud to be a Cougar.

—Andrea, Seattle, Washington

Keep up the good work and send Chocolate some love from the East Coast :)

—Stefenie, New York

Thank you so much for looking after him so royally!

—Vicki, Perth, Australia

## Loss of a Great Cougar: Dr. Charles Capen



*Dr. Charles Capen in 1960*

You will not find a person who embodies the Cougar spirit more than Dr. Charles Capen ('60 DVM WSU). He came to WSU as a man of simple means, with aspirations of making a difference, but would go on to earn international acclaim in veterinary medicine.

Dr. Capen grew up on a small dairy farm near Yelm, Washington. The family's herd of Guernsey cows brought him in contact

with veterinarians at an early age and stimulated his interest in the profession. He and his father harvested timber from their farm every summer to provide money needed to pay tuition and school expenses for him and his sister. After receiving his DVM from WSU, Dr. Capen completed residency training and a doctorate in veterinary pathology at Ohio State University. He went on to become one of the world's leading authorities on veterinary endocrine pathology, specializing in the development of animal models to study human disease.

In 1968, he married a fellow OSU professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Sharron Martin Capen ('59 DVM OSU). They were both accomplished nature photographers and travelers and visited seven continents. They enjoyed classical music, arts, fine food and wine, and the company of friends around the globe.

Among his peers, Dr. Capen rose to the highest levels of leadership in major scientific societies, including the American College of Veterinary Pathologists, the Society of Toxicologic Pathology, and the Society of Toxicology, to name a few.

Dr. Roger McClellan ('60 DVM WSU), a classmate at WSU and a fellow member of the Institute of Medicine, noted that "Chuck was bitten by the 'pathology bug' when we were second year students. He loved to learn and the more he learned the more he wanted to learn. He became a true veterinary and biomedical scholar who brought distinction to WSU, OSU, and our profession. He will be missed as a colleague, teacher, and, most of all, as a friend."

Dr. Capen was a consummate veterinary scholar and avid researcher devoted to veterinary and biomedical research. His legacy includes publications of more than 200 peer-reviewed manuscripts in leading veterinary pathology journals. In addition, he wrote more than 100 book chapters, many in texts in wide use by students of endocrinology, toxicology, and pathology.

Among his greatest honors, Dr. Charles Capen was recognized as a Distinguished University Professor by OSU, named a Distinguished Member of the American College of Veterinary



*Dr. Charles Capen*

Pathologists, designated a Distinguished Alumnus by WSU, and was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. He was one of only 16 veterinarians in the IOM (five of whom are from WSU). Dr. Capen was also a widely sought-after consultant for many of the top pharmaceutical companies around the globe.

Let us pause to honor one of the great WSU alums to have walked through our halls. Dr. Charles Capen, we salute you. The world, mankind, and our animals have been well served by your efforts.

**Dr. Richard DeBowes**  
Associate Dean of Veterinary  
Development  
and External Relations



# Peter A. Zornes Memorial Golf Tournament

The family of WSU veterinary graduate Peter Zornes is holding a golf tournament in his honor. Proceeds will go toward the Peter A. Zornes Memorial Neuroscience Scholarship.

"Peter was very active in sports and in his community," said Peter's mother Kathy Zornes, who is organizing the event. "This is our way of honoring his memory."

Peter Zornes was raised in Oakesdale, a small town in eastern Washington. It came as no surprise that he followed his father ('71 B.S.) and his mother ('74 B.A.) to Washington State University. Since his ultimate goal was to become a physician, he was excited to find that WSU had a brand new neuroscience program, where he focused his learning and found a new passion.

He graduated cum laude from WSU in 2003 with a degree in neuroscience and began the arduous

task of applying to medical school. In order to increase his chances for acceptance, he took a position as research associate in asthma and allergy at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, where he worked for 18 months.

**“ Part of what we want to do, in addition to fundraising, is provide a really good time for everyone who attends, share memories, and make new friends and new memories.”**

*—Kathy Zornes*

During this time, one of his mentors wrote of Peter: "He has the rare combination of drive, intelligence and compassion. All these qualities will go a long way toward making a fine physician." He then returned to Whitman County where he was to begin a research position with a newly formed bio-tech firm. This was not to be, however, as he was killed three weeks prior to the start of that job at the age of 25.

"Part of what we want to do, in addition to fundraising, is provide a really good time for everyone who attends, share memories, and make new friends and new memories," said Kathy Zornes.

**Colfax Golf Course  
Saturday, June 21  
Registration begins at 11:00 a.m.  
\$75 (includes tournament polo shirts,  
box lunch, dinner, and prizes)**

**Send your entries to:  
Peter Zornes Golf Tournament  
Box 272  
Oakesdale, WA 99159  
Or call: 509-285-6061**



To make a donation to the Peter A. Zornes Memorial Neuroscience Scholarship, please contact Lynne Haley at 509-335-5021 or College of Veterinary Medicine, PO Box 647010, Pullman, WA 99164-7010.

# Achievements

## Residents achieve unmatched pass rate on board exams

Six veterinarians who completed postdoctoral residencies in veterinary pathology at Washington State University's College of Veterinary Medicine all passed their board examinations this winter. The feat—six residents from one university's program passing exams simultaneously—is thought to be a first for the American College of Veterinary Pathologists, the governing body that administers the tests.



*Dr. David Prieur*

"When it comes to training programs in veterinary pathology, the world recognizes WSU as the undisputed leader," said Dean Warwick Bayly. "This year's pass rate comes as a result of having unmatched faculty and the remarkable leadership of Dr. David Prieur, who has chaired the program since 1987."

Training after earning a doctor of veterinary medicine degree to become a board-certified veterinary pathologist is one of the most arduous specialties in the veterinary profession. It is common for most residents to fail some or all of the board examination on their first attempt. Nationally, pass rates for the exam during the same period averaged 45 percent. For this year's exam, the pass rate was 53 per-

cent, compared to WSU's 100 percent pass rate.

"We have a truly outstanding cadre of faculty pathologists who lead and contribute to the training of pathology graduate students," said Dr. Prieur.

The six WSU-trained pathologists who passed the boards are Drs. Jeffrey Abbott, Shawn Berens, Gary Haldorson, Kevin Lahmers, Brian G. Murphy, and Lauren Staska. Drs. Haldorson and Lahmers remain at WSU's veterinary college as part of the next generation of exemplary faculty.

There are less than 1,500 board-certified veterinary pathologists worldwide, yet the role they play in animal and human health is essential. A severe shortage of veterinary pathologists is predicted that may reach critical proportions over the next five years. WSU's program is one of the nation's largest, and graduates about two new veterinary pathologists each year.



*Dr. Gary Haldorson and Dr. Kevin Lahmers*



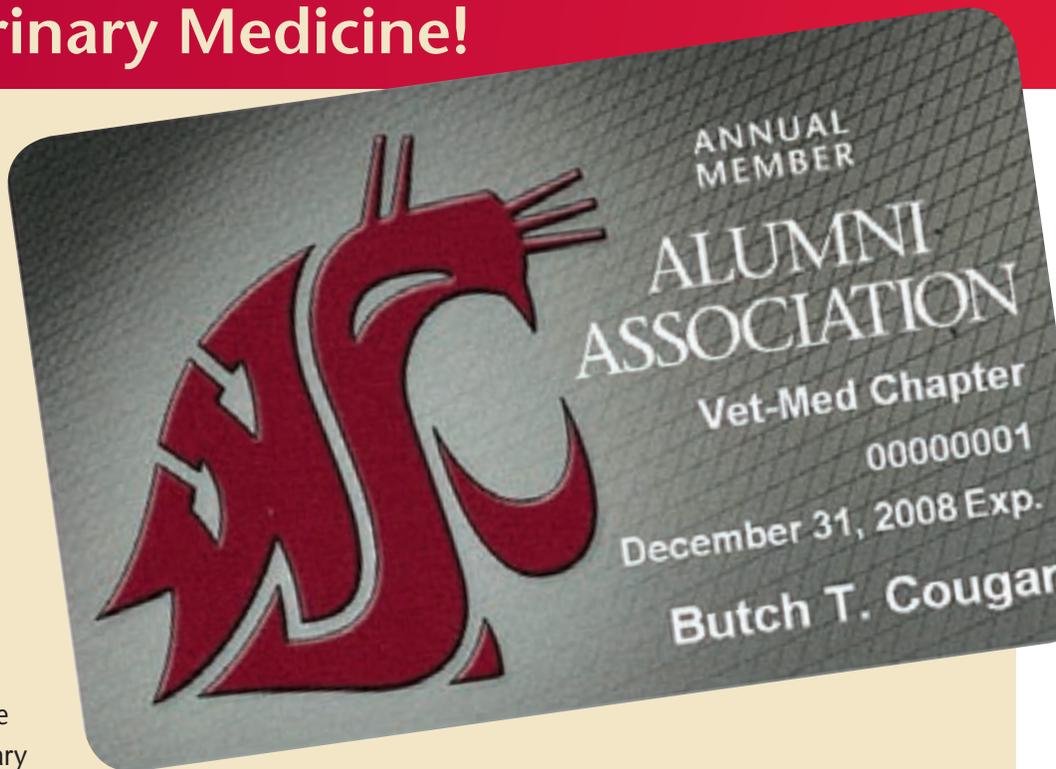
*Dr. Bill Davis (center), a professor in the WSU Department of Microbiology and Pathology, is host for two Egyptian scientists. Dr. Gaber Abdel Lrazeq (second from left) and Dr. Heba Rihan (second from right) are conducting studies at WSU as part of an Egyptian-sponsored fellowship program. Their faculty mentors from Egypt are Dr. Mohammed Akelia (far left) and Dr. Gamal Younis (far right), shown here during a recent visit to WSU.*

# The New WSU Alumni Chapter: College of Veterinary Medicine!

The Washington State University Alumni Association (WSUAA) and the WSU College of Veterinary Medicine have teamed up to launch a new level of membership. We invite you to join the WSUAA's College of Veterinary Medicine Chapter.

Members of the College of Veterinary Medicine Chapter will enjoy all of the benefits and discounts offered to members of the fastest-growing alumni association in the Pac-10. Plus, you'll be able to stay up-to-date on all of the exciting new developments at the nationally-renowned College of Veterinary Medicine, keep connected to fellow CVM graduates, take part in exclusive events and programs arranged specifically for you, and declare your pride in one of the nation's top veterinary colleges.

Members enjoy attending alumni networking and social events in their area and the opportunity to stay up-to-



date on alumni achievements and WSU news. Members also receive national, regional, and online discounts at an expanding list of alumni-preferred retailers and dozens of hotel chains across the country.

For a complete list of benefits visit [www.alumni.wsu.edu/benefits](http://www.alumni.wsu.edu/benefits) or call 1-800-258-6978.



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