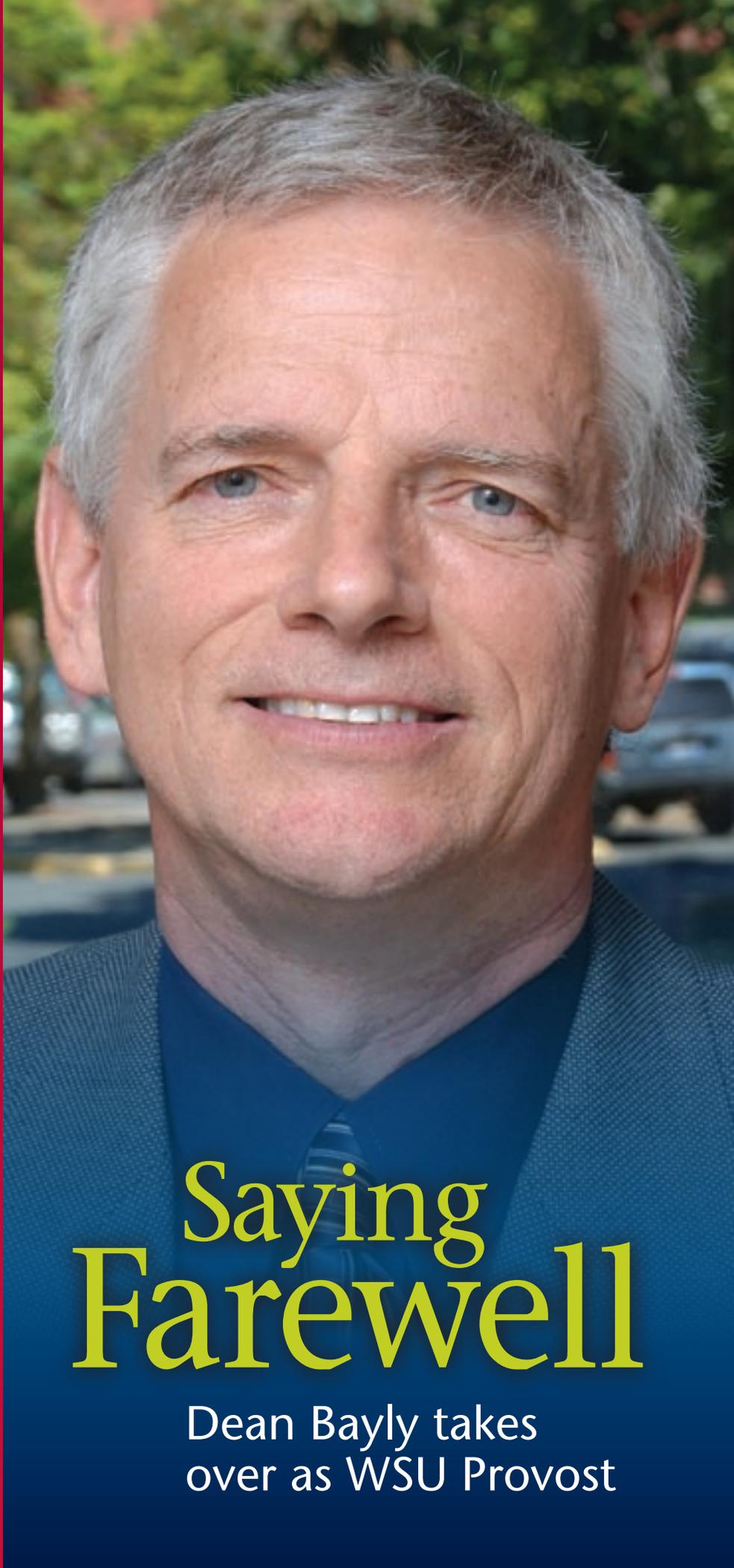




# Veterinary

executive report

Winter 2008



# Saying Farewell

Dean Bayly takes  
over as WSU Provost

WASHINGTON STATE  
 UNIVERSITY

*World Class. Face to Face.*

# Message from the Dean...



*Dean Warwick Bayly*

## Dr. Bayly

- Originally from Melbourne, Australia
- Has served at WSU for nearly 30 years, previously as professor of equine medicine, interim chair of Veterinary Clinical Services, and associate dean for continuing education
- Named the first four-year Robert B. McEachern Distinguished Professor in Equine Medicine in 1995
- Named the permanent dean of Washington State University's College of Veterinary Medicine in May 2001
- Past president of both the Washington State Veterinary Medical Association and the World Equine Veterinary Association
- Nickname (Waz) given to him at WSU that has become his signature trademark

Dear Friends,

It is with considerable regret that I inform you that I am stepping down as dean of the WSU College of Veterinary Medicine, effective October 31. In early October, WSU President Elson S. Floyd personally asked me to provide assistance to him and the University by assuming the duties of provost. The time frame for this new role will be a period of at least two years.

Initially, I had hoped to remain as dean, with many of the college's responsibilities being handled on a temporary basis by other members of the CVM leadership. After several weeks on the job, it has become increasingly apparent that it would not be fair to either the College of Veterinary Medicine or to the University for this arrangement to continue.

The University will begin a search for a new dean in hopes of having the right leader in place as soon as possible. I am pleased to announce that Dr. Bryan Slinker (WSU DVM '80) has agreed to serve as interim dean, effective November 1 and extending until June 30, 2009, unless a new dean is in place before then.

As University provost, I will still be able to help this wonderful college pursue the strategic course that has been mapped out for the immediate future. I could not have made this move in good conscience without leaving the college in excellent hands. The leadership of the college will continue the great work we have begun. The college has successfully relied on a collegial team approach to leadership for many years. I have the utmost confidence that this approach will continue to be successful.

I want to assure you that my interest in and commitment to the college will remain as strong as ever. In particular, I will be closely following the progress made in recently undertaken initiatives such as the review of the curriculum, assessment of DVM curricular outcomes, modernization of the agricultural animal teaching program, development of the School for Global Animal Health, and teaching of leadership and clinical communication skills.

Thank you for taking the time to read this important message, and know that, while my head must now be in the provost's office, my heart will always belong to the veterinary college.

I greatly appreciate the interactive opportunities and courtesies that you have afforded me while serving as your dean and hope that our paths will continue to cross periodically.

Thank you for all that you have done and will continue to do for the College of Veterinary Medicine. Go Cougs!

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

Dr. Warwick Bayly



## WSU Grad to Assume Duties as CVM Dean

Dr. Bryan K. Slinker (WSU DVM '80), executive associate dean and chair of the Department of Veterinary and Comparative

Anatomy, Pharmacology, and Physiology (VCAPP), has accepted the position of interim dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine and will serve in that position beginning November 1, 2008.



*Dr. Bryan K. Slinker*

Dr. Slinker, a professor in VCAPP, received his bachelor's degree in zoology from the College of Idaho in 1976, and his DVM and Ph.D. degrees from Washington State University in 1980 and 1982, respectively. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the Cardiovascular Research Institute of the University of California, San Francisco, and then served as an assistant professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Vermont

from 1986 to 1992. He returned to Washington State University in 1992 and has served as the chair of the VCAPP department since 1999.

"Clearly, the college has been on the right track," said Dr. Slinker. "We have several key programs and initiatives that we must continue to foster, including the School for Global Animal Health, our developing cancer program and other clinical strengths, and our research strengths in neuroscience, infectious disease, and disease surveillance. In addition we have launched several important curricular initiatives in leadership and communication, curriculum content, organization, and assessment, and developing more options for students, including those interested in agricultural animals. I am eager to work with our outstanding faculty and leadership team to keep these programs on track for success."

Dr. Slinker's research focuses on heart and cardiac muscle function. He has more than 50 publications in books and scientific journals, principally in the *American Journal of Physiology*, *Circulation Research*, *Cardiovascular Research*, and *Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology*.

Dr. Terry McElwain will continue as executive associate dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Doug Jasmer will continue to serve as associate dean for student and academic affairs and Dr. Rick DeBowes remains as associate dean for development and external relations.

# Loving Chocolate

*Chocolate has a new home*

An abandoned Chesapeake Bay retriever who underwent extensive surgery and rehabilitation at the WSU College of Veterinary Medicine has settled into his new life with a family in the Tri-Cities. Here is the latest from Sarah Weidner, who reports that a family donated a hot tub to them so they can continue Chocolate's water therapy.



## Hello from Chocolate's new family

*Hi,*

*Chocolate is doing great! He just went to have molds made for his braces last week and should have them in about 14 days. After he wears them for four weeks we come back to see Dr. Martinez and Lori. He swims 25 minutes a day, plays ball, hangs out with his brother and sister, and just wiggles his way into our hearts more and more every day. We just can't imagine life without him.*

*We just got back today (Sunday) from Chocolate's first camping trip. We went up to the Tucannon...way up in the woods. He loved it! He got a lot of fresh air, a lot of exercise, and a lot of lounging around.*

*Chocolate is an amazing boy and we are so very blessed to have him in our life. After everything he has been through he is still a very trusting and loving boy. We are so very proud of him and love to brag about him.*

*Oh, and Chocolate says "woof, woof woof, woof, woof woof woof, woof," which means "I love and miss all my friends at WSU and GO COUGS!"*

*Take care and thank you for keeping up with Chocolate,*

*Sarah Weidner*



## Bike Ride to Honor Furry Friends Nets over \$40,000

For Bill Johnson, the bicycle ride he makes every year is a gift he offers to his lost pets. For the third year in a row, Johnson has biked from his home in Cle Elum to Pullman to raise money for the WSU College of Veterinary Medicine. "It's a lot of fun. It's just great being out there riding, knowing that it's for a great purpose," said Johnson.

This year's ride is among the most successful, raising over \$10,000 to bring the three year project to over \$40,000 in donations. The money goes to the Sonny Angel and Cody Jo Gift of Hope Endowment, which Johnson established in honor of his two dogs. The fund is used to support and care for WSU animal patients who need life-saving procedures but have no owners, or whose owners do not have the means to pay for the care. "They were both gracious and giving, and I think this is what they would have wanted. So that's why I'm doing it," Johnson said.

**"They were both gracious and giving, and I think this is what they would have wanted. So that's why I'm doing it."**

**—Bill Johnson**

The idea for the ride began when Johnson's Golden retriever Sonny was lost to canine lymphoma in 2006. The route he takes retraces his friend's last days when the two would travel back and forth to WSU for cancer treatments. This year, a team of riders affiliated with the WSU Cancer Treatment Center joined with Johnson to ride in from Washtucna. "I think that what Bill is doing means a lot," said Dr. Jeff Bryan, WSU veterinary oncologist. "Taking his pain, taking what his animals, his

good friends, meant to him and turning that into hope and help for other people. I think that is a very compelling message and we just had to be part of it."

Donations can still be made by going to [www.vetmed.wsu.edu](http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu). Riders are already making plans to join up with Johnson to complete the entire route next year.



# From the Office of Development

During this holiday season, we believe it is important for us to say “thank you” for the wonderful ways in which you, our alumni and friends, have given to support Washington State University and your College of Veterinary Medicine. In these days of budget cutbacks and reduced educational funding, your gifts have made the difference between our continued excellence in veterinary education and a path marked by mediocrity.

I am constantly reminded of how creative our graduates have become in making these gifts a reality. Consider the case of Dr. Brian Hunter (WSU '79), a practicing small animal veterinarian in Spokane. Like his father before him, Dr. Frederick Hunter (WSU '45), Brian has provided care for generations of pets belonging to Marge and Frank Crowley. The Crowleys were so touched by these gifts of compassionate care provided by Brian and his father that when Marge passed away this year she chose to honor the commitments of the Hunter family through an estate gift of over \$600,000 to the WSU College of Veterinary Medicine.



Dr. Frederick Hunter



Dr. Brian Hunter

Many of our top areas of research and training are incredibly strong as a direct result of private gifts from friends of the college. The veterinarians at Moore & Co. Veterinary Services in Alberta, Canada, have long been friends of WSU radiologist Dr. Russ Tucker.

In appreciation of the radiology program at WSU, they provide an annual gift to the college that funds a veterinary radiology residency training program.

Another friend of the college and long time member of the Equine Health Advisory Board, Linda Sferra introduced us to a good friend and equestrian, Andrea Lorig. As a result of Lorig's appreciation for the college and personal generosity, the college received a gift from the Lorig family that enabled us to purchase a new nuclear scintigraphy machine that will greatly enhance our clinical abilities in the area of equine lameness diagnosis and imaging while providing a tremendous educational opportunity for our students.

Then there is the Class of 1972, a group of WSU veterinarians who have long maintained a spirit of connectivity with themselves and with the college. Recently they completed the funding

of a veterinary scholarship endowment that will provide much needed support for students facing the challenge of ever rising tuition and educational costs. It is important to note that this class has truly distinguished themselves as supporters of the college. Prior to funding this scholarship endowment, they had banded together and funded an operating endowment for the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

The truth is that today's veterinary educational programs can no longer survive without your generosity. It is hard for me to imagine the shape of our profession without the continued support of today's veterinary education. To each of you who has given or connected us with others who support us through their gifts, we extend our heartfelt thanks. To those of you who would like to know how you can help, we would welcome the opportunity to visit with you about your interests in the college and the many ways in which you can make a lasting and positive difference for its future.

On behalf of all our faculty, staff, and students please accept our appreciation and heartfelt “thanks” for all you do.



WSU's nuclear scintigraphy machine



Go Cougs!

**Dr. Richard DeBowes**

Associate Dean of Veterinary Development and External Relations

WSU College of Veterinary Medicine

## Look for a WSU Alumni gathering at these upcoming events!

December 8, 2008  
American Association of Equine Practitioners, San Diego, California

January 18, 2009  
North American Veterinary Conference, Orlando, Florida

February 16, 2009  
Western Veterinary Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada

March 27–29, 2009  
WSU Annual Conference, Spokane, Washington

July 2009  
American Veterinary Medical Association Conference, Seattle, Washington



## Award Presented to the Gorhams

Dr. John R. Gorham and Mary Ellen Gorham have been added to the Pullman Walk of Fame in the WSU Presidents and Distinguished Members of the WSU Community category. A brass plate with their engraved names is set in the sidewalk on Main Street in Pullman next to the plate that honors the late Dr. Leo Bustad.

Dr. Gorham, professor of veterinary microbiology and pathology, holds the longest tenure of any faculty member at WSU. He has nearly 500 publications with more than 250 coauthors in the areas of viral, bacterial, genetic, and nutritional diseases. Mary Ellen Gorham has been a frequent contributor to *DVM Newsmagazine* and has written over 1,600 weekly newspaper pet columns.

## McClellan Wins Award

Dr. Roger O. McClellan (DVM '60) has received the WSU Regents' Distinguished Alumnus Award, the highest honor the university grants to an alumnus.



"This award recognizes a WSU graduate who has gone on to make a significant difference in the world. By that measure, Dr. McClellan is a most worthy recipient," WSU President Elson S. Floyd said. "As an outstanding researcher and recognized expert in inhalation toxicology and human health risk analysis, his work continues to teach us much about the world around us. And, through it all, he has been a great friend of and advocate for our university."

"I have had the good fortune of a supportive family, dedicated teachers, and superb fellow

students and colleagues from whom I have learned a great deal. These relationships all enriched my life," McClellan said.

The Regents' Distinguished Alumnus Award honors alumni "who shall have made a truly distinguished contribution to society, or who, through personal achievement, have brought distinction to Washington State University."



## Kugler Wins Award

Hattie Kugler (DVM '08) won the Smithcors National Student Veterinary History essay contest. Established by the American Veterinary Medical History Society, the award aims to encourage interest in veterinary history. Kugler's winning essay was "Scratches, Grease Heel, and Grapes: Or Chronic Pastern Dermatitis Then and Now."

# Alumni Chronicles Life and War

*"I have been 1 second from death,  
15 seconds from death, and 30  
seconds from death."*

—Dr. Gene Curnow (WSU DVM '55)

It is hard to attach a label to Dr. Gene Curnow. As a medic, he survived the invasion of Iwo Jima during World War II. As a veterinarian and graduate of WSU, he pioneered the concept of a mobile animal clinic. Now, after 50 years, he has published the story of his life: *Life, the Hard Way: Up from Poverty Flat*.

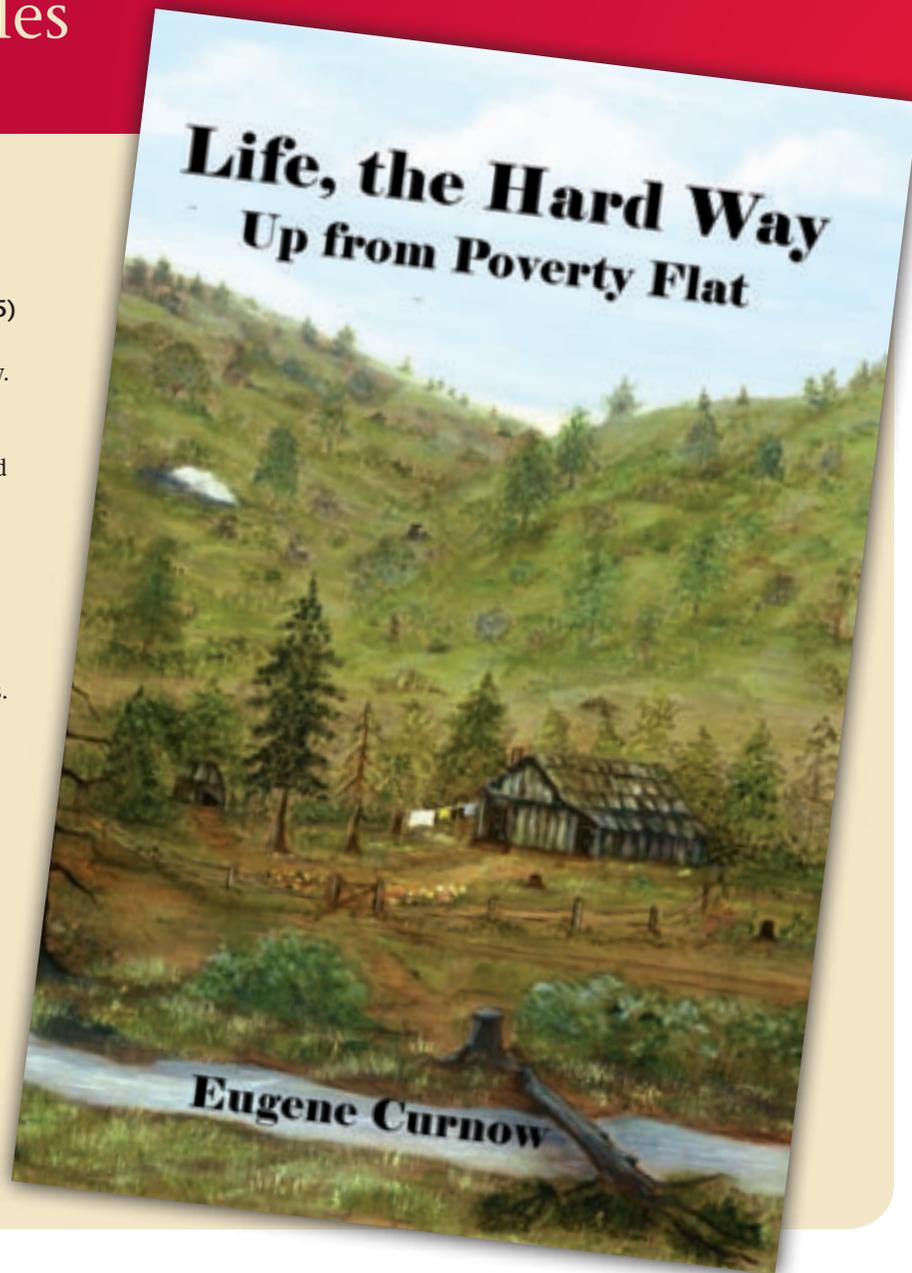


Dr. Gene Curnow

At the age of 17, Curnow was one of 36 medics who landed at Iwo Jima along with 2,500 Marines. Ten days later he was among the six corpsmen and 88 Marines who left the island alive. His book features a number of previously unpublished photographs that were taken as the ships prepared for the invasion.

Curnow graduated from the WSU College of Veterinary Medicine in 1955, and operated a successful practice in the Portland area. He was featured in *National Geographic*, the only veterinary practice believed to be so featured.

Dr. Gene Curnow's memoir is available through Amazon.com or directly from Bennett & Hastings Publishing.



College of Veterinary Medicine  
PO Box 647010  
Pullman WA 99164-7010  
[www.vetmed.wsu.edu](http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu)

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