



Aesculapian

For and About Alumni and Friends of the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine

Vol. 1, No. 2 • Spring 2005



IN THIS ISSUE:



Interim Dean Sheila Allen **2**



Rebuilding veterinary education in Iraq and Afghanistan **3**



CVM administrator promoted to Vice President for Research **3**



Coach Richt will speak at Vet Med's 42nd Reunion..... **4**

About the cover:

Dean Keith W. Prasse retired on February 28 after 33 years at the College and eight years as dean. Small animal surgeon **Sheila W. Allen**, former associate dean for academic affairs, was appointed interim dean while a national search is conducted. See story page 2.

Dean Keith W. Prasse retires

KEITH W. PRASSE, WHO HAS BEEN on the veterinary college faculty since 1972, retired on February 28 after serving eight years as dean and six years as associate dean.

As dean, Prasse was chief administrator for the College's seven academic departments, the teaching hospital, two state veterinary diagnostic laboratories, the Southeastern Wildlife Disease Study, and the Poultry Diagnostic and Research Center.


lic health, while the other combines the DVM degree with a Ph.D. The Food Animal Health Management Program was established to ensure continuing emphasis on dairy, beef, and swine health and production.

A native of Freeport, Ill., Prasse attended Iowa State University, where he earned the bachelor's and DVM degrees, as well as a master's and doctoral degree in pathology.

He considers his best professional achievement to be the coauthoring of Veterinary Laboratory

during his tenure as dean, associate dean and faculty member," said Arnett C. Mace Jr., senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. "His achievements are significant and commendable."

Prasse received many honors, including the Norden Distinguished Teaching Award both at ISU and at

UGA. Iowa State University honored him with a distinguished alumnus award for outstanding professional achievements in teaching, diagnostics and research. In 2003, he was named Veterinarian of the Year by the Georgia Veterinary Medical Association and was named to Outstanding Educators of America. 

"I am grateful for the support of the college's faculty, staff, and students as well as the university administration and our alumni. These are the people who have made things happen during my tenure as dean, and I believe the college is blessed by their support and dedication"

— Dean Keith W. Prasse

He was in charge of the college's \$45 million-plus budget; about 360 DVM students; 125 graduate students, interns and residents; 425 staff; and 130 faculty.

During his tenure, sponsored research revenue increased 424 percent, from \$2.6 million to \$11.2 million per year. Gifts and pledges to the college increased from less than \$100,000 to more than \$7 million per year.

A new Athens Diagnostic Laboratory and a new bioresources building were constructed while he was dean. Prasse also helped acquire funding to complete the Animal Health Research Center and began planning for a new teaching hospital.

Under Prasse's leadership, enrollment increased from 80 to 96 students per class, the selection process was improved, and more flexible curriculum was inaugurated.

Two dual degree programs were launched – one combines the DVM degree with a master's in pub-

Medicine: Clinical Pathology, a text in its 4th edition, which is used by a majority of U.S. colleges of veterinary medicine. All contributing authors have either trained or served as faculty at the College.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to have served as dean," said Prasse. "The University of Georgia and the College of Veterinary Medicine have been wonderful to me.

"My only disappointment has been the repeated state budget cuts. State appropriation is critical for our principal mission – education of professional students."

"Keith Prasse has provided outstanding leadership to the College of Veterinary Medicine for eight years. During that time he has greatly enhanced research productivity while maintaining excellence in instruction and clinical services," said UGA President Michael F. Adams.

"I am very grateful for the leadership Dean Prasse has provided to the College of Veterinary Medicine

New faces, new places

The following appointments were effective March 1, and will remain in effect until a permanent dean is appointed.




Scott Brown is Acting Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, succeeding Sheila Allen who is Interim Dean.



Bran Ritchie is Acting Department Head of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery, succeeding Jeanne Barsanti who retired in December.



Susan White is Acting Associate Dean for Public Service and Outreach, succeeding Doug Allen who continues on as Hospital Director. 

Sheila Allen is interim dean

SHEILA W. ALLEN WAS APPOINTED interim dean on March 1 following Dean Keith W. Prasse's retirement. She will serve in that

position while a national search is conducted for a permanent dean. The appointment is subject to approval by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents.


Allen, who has been in the College since 1981 and on the College's faculty since 1986, served as associate dean for academic affairs since 1997 and as acting head of the Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery.

She earned a master's degree

in veterinary clinical pathology from the college while serving her residency in small animal surgery. She holds bachelor's and doctor of

veterinary medicine degrees from Cornell University.

Allen's specialty is surgery with expertise in oncologic and reconstructive surgery and perioperative pain management. A diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons, she has developed computer-assisted techniques for

teaching basic surgical skills and has received numerous awards for her innovations in instruction. 



Craig Greene receives Lifetime Achievement Award

CRAIG E. GREENE, PROFESSOR, small animal medicine and surgery, received the award during the North American Veterinary Conference in Orlando.

The prestigious 2005 Mark L. Morris, Sr. Lifetime Achievement Award is presented annually by Hill's Pet Nutrition to a veterinarian who has made a lifetime commitment to improving the health and well-being of companion animals.

Known internationally for his teaching and research on infectious diseases in dogs and cats, Greene is an acclaimed researcher and award-winning teacher.

Greene's career has resulted in three textbooks, more than 35 chapters in other textbooks, more than 100 refereed publications in scientific journals, and at least 185 presentations to audiences across the globe.

His textbook, *Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat*, is considered


to be the bible of infectious diseases for veterinarians and is the number one text used for teaching students.

Greene gets numerous requests a month from all over the country asking for consults. He also gets invitations to consult and speak in Europe, Asia, the South Pacific, and South America.

"Dr. Greene has enlightened stu-

dents, practitioners and clients in immeasurable ways," said Dean Keith W. Prasse. "I believe that giving him this award will honor a truly exceptional individual and maintain the high level of quality associated with this award."

Greene came to UGA in 1976 with a DVM from University of California-Davis, an internship at Cornell University, and an MS from Auburn University.

In recognition of his lifetime of service, Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc., is making a \$20,000 donation to the Morris Animal Foundation in Greene's name. 



CVM administrator is promoted to vice president

CHRISTOPHER S. KING HAS BEEN appointed assistant vice president and director of animal care and use in the UGA Office of the Vice President for Research.


King served as director of animal resources in the College since 1997 and in the College of Arts and Sciences from 1992 to 1997. The appointment is pending Board of Regents approval.

His goals include developing an academic comparative medicine program to train veterinary students and professional post graduates to become laboratory animal or comparative medicine specialists.

King helped plan, design and



acquire funding for several animal resource facilities at UGA, including the one at the College and one planned for the Coverdell Center for Biomedical and Health Sciences now under construction.

He achieved diplomate status with the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine, the highest certification in the field. 



In Kuwait, Dean Prasse (top left) met with deans from two other colleges of veterinary medicine: Bennie Osburn, University of California-Davis (top right), and Joe Kornegay, University of Missouri (front left), as well as representatives of the National Commission on Veterinary Economic Issues and the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps.

Prasse helps Iraq and Afghanistan rebuild veterinary education

DEAN KEITH W. PRASSE AND 50 veterinarians representing Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the U.S. met in Kuwait City to discuss ways of reviving veterinary medicine in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Iraq has seven schools of veterinary medicine, but students have few if any jobs available when they graduate, he reports.

"Their faculty is 25 years out of date because Saddam cut them off from the rest of the scientific world in 1981.


"Afghanistan is literally rubble," he said. Students can attend two schools of veterinary medicine or a veterinary science department in an agricultural college, but employment is hard to find.

"Before the Taliban they had 75 faculty members," Prasse says. "Today they have 10. The rest were killed in the wars. Yet they still have classes."

The group came up with short and long-term goals, and discussed possible ways of funding the activities that were planned.

As a follow-up to the conference, Prasse will help to identify agencies which might be approached for financial support.

"The people of Iraq and Afghanistan are in desperate need of more

animal protein in their diets, and veterinary medicine is extremely essential to help them protect their animal resources," Prasse says. 

Aesculapian

Published by the College of Veterinary Medicine
The University of Georgia, Athens

Dr. Keith W. Prasse
Dean

Dr. Doug Allen
Acting Associate Dean for
Public Service and Outreach

Kathy Reid Bangle
Director of Development

Brooke Stortz
Assistant Director of Development

Julie Knowlton
Major Gifts Officer

Dot Sparer
Director of Communications

Carlton Bain
Director of Alumni Relations

Charles O. Johnson
Design

Scott Trubey
Chris Herron
Photography

www.vet.uga.edu
Website

Send news and comments to:
Dot Sparer, editor
tellus@vet.uga.edu
706/542-1446

Quittin' time for Belinda

Alumni Relations Director Belinda Wells retired in December. She has been a familiar and respected member of the External Affairs team since she came on board in the fall of 2002 after serving nine years in the Dean's Office.



When she assumed her position, Wells said her goal was to add meaningful, fun events to the roster of alumni activities, and to make her office responsive and helpful to all our graduates.

"She has succeeded beyond all expectations," said Doug Allen, acting associate director for service and outreach. "We will all miss her tremendously." 📧

Please welcome Carlton Bain

Former admissions counselor in the College's Office for Academic Affairs, Bain is the new director of alumni relations. He has held responsible positions at the University and the Georgia Department of Hu-



man Resources for 15 years.

He holds a Master of Public Administration degree and a BA in Sociology from Piedmont College. Bain sings baritone in a choral group, and is the future proud owner of a new Mini Cooper.

"I'm following in some mighty big footsteps," says Bain, "but I hope to do my part in strengthening the link between the alumni and the College."

Contact Bain at 542-5732 or alumni@vet.uga.edu. 📧

They're speaking at the 42nd Reunion April 1&2

Keynote speaker Dr. Allan Robins will talk about the application of embryonic stem cell technology to veterinary medicine on April 1.



Vice-president and technical officer at Novocell, he manages the stem cell program at this Athens company.



Marc Richt, head coach of the Georgia Bulldogs, came to the University of Georgia in January 2001 from a coaching position at Florida State

CVM Limited Edition Print is available

For information or orders contact Jill Leite

georgiascenes.com

or call Jill Leite Studio:

706/549-4442



Continue your education at UGA

June 11-12 24-25 25	Basic Exotic Animal Endoscopy Basic Soft Tissue Rigid Endoscopy Advanced Minimally Invasive Surgery
August 20-21	Fish Endoscopy
September 24-25	Small Animal Neurology
October 1-2 8-9 15-16	Basic Soft Tissue Rigid Endoscopy Emergency Surgery & Critical Care Techniques Veterinary Psychopharmacology
November 5-6	Basic Exotic Endoscopy
December 3-4 9 10-11	Small Animal Internal Medicine Advanced Minimally Invasive Surgery Advanced Exotic Animal Endoscopy

University. He will be speaker at the University Partners' and President's Club Breakfast on April 2.

The complete program is available on our website: www.vet.uga.edu. Just click on alumni. 📧



College of Veterinary Medicine
The University of Georgia
Athens 30602-7371

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Athens, Georgia
Permit #390