

Minutes of the University of Georgia College of Veterinary  
Medicine Alumni Association Executive Board  
October 11, 2008  
CVM Boardroom

President Dr. Tim Montgomery called the meeting to order at 10:15 am and welcomed everyone. He asked for a moment of silence for all those alumni we have lost during the past year. Dr. Billy Lazenby who was a board member died in 2007.

Those present were: Dean Sheila Allen, Drs. Tim Montgomery, Doris Miller, Ruth McNeil Vaughn, Marian Shuler Holladay, Scott Westmoreland, Mike Topper, Don McMillian Jr., Dolores Kunze, and Matt Blankenship, Kathy Bangle, Molly Gannaway, Sue M. Smith, Marti Brick, Carlton Bain, Karen Aiken.

Dr. Montgomery mentioned all the thank-you notes he received from the veterinary students who received scholarship awards from the Alumni Association last year.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved with a note added that the CVM Alumni Association revised constitution was approved by the Board electronically.

Old Business: Dr. Montgomery stated that he had reviewed the last six years of minutes and found several action items not completed.

Marti Brick gave the report for Dr. Mark Mosher of the Awards Committee. Everyone that served on the Awards committee was thanked. The same members will serve this year. See the handouts for the nomination form and list of past recipients. Anyone previously nominated will be considered again this year. The committee will ask for additional information if needed on any of the nominees.

New Business: Dean Allen gave the College update. See handout of student selection for CVM based on areas of the State. It was noted that the College does take into account the area the student is from in the selection process but only qualified students are admitted. A question was asked if the College has a breakdown of the number of students accepted from private, public or home-school education. That data is not now captured in the application process.

See handout on the Food Animal Incentive Program. The Dean discussed this new program that is in its second year. The students must apply for this program when they apply to UGA. The Dean discussed the Nat'l Loan Forgiveness bill and a similar bill being proposed in Georgia (the Dobbins bill).

See handout on Employment Chosen by UGA Graduates in 2008. She explained our students mirror the national trend with about 31% going into internships after graduation.

The Dean mentioned that we had very few retirements this year but had hired two new department heads (Dr. Keith Harris – pathology and Dr. Steve Holliday – Anatomy/Radiology) and one Director (Dr. Jeremiah Saliki – Athens Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory). A reception honoring the first Dr. Barry Harmon professorship (Dr. Keith Harris) will be held in November. Dr. Michelle Barton was appointed to the prestigious Callaway Chair. See handouts of these announcements. Merial funded a new Community Practice Clinic Director and interviews are in progress for this position.

The Animal Health Research Center is in the “burn-in” phase to get all the possible kinks identified. The old Engineering Building and the old Teaching Hospital clinic area are being renovated for new labs, offices and a breakroom. The deck by the CVM Library was renovated for one-third the original price quoted.

The artist's rendition of the proposed new teaching hospital was handed out to everyone. UGA President Adams and Dean Sheila Allen have been visiting with the Governor and others in Georgia and South Carolina to explain the new Teaching Hospital proposal. In short the enrollment would increase from 96 to 150 with 17 additional students accepted from South Carolina and South Carolina contributing 22% of the final cost. It was explained that funding for additional equipment would come from the University and the Teaching Hospital budget. All the clinical faculty (about 50% of the total CVM faculty) and all the third and fourth year students would be housed in the new facility. Concerning a question about how long would it take to build the building once funding was received, the Dean stated that the first year we would receive 10% of the construction costs for planning. If the building is funded the next year it would take about two years to construct.

The Dean discussed the handout on performance measures of the CVM. The CVM students' national board passing rate is very good. The Teaching Hospital revenues have been increasing except for the last few months. The endowments and gifts to the CVM have increased. There has been a 6% budget cut so far this year from the State budget. Some positions have been frozen but there have been no layoffs. Dr. Bruce Hollett stepped down as Associate Dean of Public Service and Outreach. This position was frozen and duties reassigned. The Medical College of Georgia is establishing a campus here in Athens with the first class to begin in Fall of 2010. Some CVM faculty may assist with teaching these students.

See the handout on the Veterinary Medical Support Fund. Note that expenses always exceed income and the CVM contributes the difference. All funds from the Atlanta Steeple Chase go into the new Hospital Building fund. In response to a question concerning the down turn in the stock market and funds for scholarships, the

Dean stated that interest was still sufficient to cover the scholarships.

Matt Blankenship, Director of the IT division at the CVM, explained several new initiatives in progress. The Athens Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory is paying for and thus serving as a guinea pig and model for internet access of client results, on-line payments, and on-line sample submissions. This is to be completed beginning in January 2009 with the Teaching Hospital to follow. He will investigate the ability of data going directly into the submitting Veterinarian's computer files as is available through Antech. He requested that the Board members provide him with the type of information that would be valuable to receive from the Teaching Hospital when it goes online. Daily progress reports were suggested.

Dr. Montgomery discussed procedures for selecting new Board members. We need to select at least two more and should limit it to no more than 20 Board members. All suggested names for consideration should be forwarded immediately to Dr. Mark Abdy. Names that were suggested by Board members at the meeting were: Jan Sosnowski (Delaware), Suzie White (UGA retired), Myron Downs (Athens), Tom Isacc (West Virginia), Janie Cotton (West Virginia), Danny Montgomery (West Virginia), Eric Mueller (CVM), Craig Greene (UGA retired), Jeanie Barsanti (UGA retired), Charlie Martin (UGA retired), Chad Schmiedt (CVM), Spencer Johnston (CVM), Charles Broussard (poultry), Hank Wheeler, Jeff Creamer, Alex Greenberg, Alex Katz.

Kathy Bangle introduced Molly Muschamp Gannaway as the new Major Gift Officer of the CVM. She mentioned that the Athletic Association funded a professorship in Infectious Disease this year. Brenda Horton has been working with the reunion classes to increase donations to the CVM. See handouts on Capitol Campaign.

Carton Bain gave an update on the Annual Fund. See his handouts. He noted that 20% of our alumni give to the CVM. We have over 4,000 alumni but this number also includes deceased individuals.

Sue Myers Smith gave an update and demonstration of the new CVM website. See handouts of publications. She gave a demonstration of the itunes U, facebook and MySpace pages. The Board discussed the E-newsletter Update. It should go out once a month directly to the Alumni Board listserv. The Alumni Board has two ways to communicate through the Alumni Board listserv ([vetalumniboard@listserv.uga.edu](mailto:vetalumniboard@listserv.uga.edu)) and the Alumni Board Forum Google Groups ([vetAlumniBoard@googlegroups.com](mailto:vetAlumniBoard@googlegroups.com)).

Dr. Topper suggested that the Board investigate having webinar teleconferences for some of our meetings.

Dr. Montgomery discussed the podcast using UGA touring the CVM. Sue Smith said this project was already in progress. Dr. Montgomery discussed the Young Alumni Advisory Committee. He and Dr. Topper will select committee members. This committee could talk to students about important issues facing new graduates, student debt, contract negotiations, etc.

There was a discussion concerning items to recognize individuals who donate to the CVM. Ties, scarves, pins were suggested. Dr. Topper also suggested that all Alumni Board members need to have name tags.

Marti Brick discussed the upcoming events calendar for the CVM Alumni. Due to budget cuts personnel from the College would not be able to attend all these events and volunteers from the Board were requested. Board members were to let Marti know if anyone would assist with these events.

The agenda and budget documents will be sent to all Board members at least two weeks prior to the next meeting. There was no leadership training prior to this meeting as there were no new members. Dr. Montgomery will send all Board members the final version of the updated Constitution and By-Laws.

The next meeting will be March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Doris M. Miller DVM, PhD  
Alumni Secretary/Treasurer