College puts new face forward in cyberspace

“We’re always looking for new ways to get in touch and keep in touch with our alumni and friends,” says John Glisson, associate dean for services and outreach. “We like to hear your news and want to keep you informed of news you can use from the College.” That two-way communication process may be easier than ever with the advent of our new website, scheduled to make its appearance in April. Besides bringing our website information up to date, we’ve tried to make it more attractive, more user friendly, and more interactive, using the wisdom of hindsight and some of the gee-whiz electronic tools introduced since the original website was created.

We’ve tried to make it more attractive, more user friendly, and more interactive

The website will be organized to match the interests of the person logging on. If you’re a veterinarian, the website will give you a choice of contents that help you refer patients, research our clinical services, or browse our academic departments, among other topics.

If you’re an alum, it will automatically take you to pages dealing with alumni affairs.

And if you’re a potential student or potential donor, the website will take you to content that answers your questions.

Of course there’ll be lots of photos on the website of people, services, and facilities.

Here’s a sneak preview of the kind of information you will find on three of the sites that may be of most interest to you: the Teaching Hospital, the alumni site, and the site for potential donors.

The Teaching Hospital site

Basic information:
- hours, contact information, maps and directions
- referral policies, accounting and vaccination policies

Important forms:
- referral forms,
- oncology consult forms, and radiographic consult forms, as well as a feedback form

Continued on page 2
The championship competition will be held in Georgia this year at the Conyers International Horse Park on April 23 and 24 – the last event of the season. The College’s Large Animal clinicians will be on call during the entire competition.

Hoke Wilder’s vision became UGA’s 12th sport for women

Hoke W. Wilder, UGA’s assistant athletic director in charge of standards and new sport programs, noticed that interests in horses – particularly sport horses – is growing tremendously in Georgia.

“We realized the timing was fantastic for adding equestrian and we haven’t been disappointed,” he says.

“That was one of the reasons we decided to add equestrian as a sport,” says Wilder. “Initial research showed there are many more horses in the state than we thought and the quality of the horses has changed dramatically. There are now more valuable sport horses trained for competition.”

“We realized the timing was fantastic for adding equestrian and we haven’t been disappointed, he points out. “We’re putting together a formalized partnership between three departments: Athletics, Veterinary Medicine, and Animal and Dairy Science.

“We hope eventually there can be a Center for Equine Excellence at the University of Georgia – that’s the long term goal. This will attract not only the best riders but top students as well.”

W. Wilder looked at equestrian programs around the country and concluded “the schools that will be successful are the ones that have colleges of veterinary medicine.

“We could not be any happier with the relationship we have with veterinary medicine — everyone has been superb to work with.

“Veterinary medicine is providing equine sports something that hasn’t been available before – good opportunities for horses and for students.

The relationship between the College of Veterinary Medicine and athletics can grow into something very special for the University of Georgia.”

W. Wilder is an enthusiastic advocate for the equestrian program. “It’s a program that does something for everyone,” he says.

“We’re in a great position as a University to take advantage of this growth and become leaders in the Southeast.”

“I believe we have just scratched the surface of the tremendous growth of interest in the state of Georgia.

“We’re in a great position as a University to take advantage of this growth and become leaders in the Southeast. We have all the pieces of the puzzle in place – it’s all here,” he adds.

Lack of facilities may slow growth of equine program

“The veterinary college is very excited to be involved on the ground floor of the equestrian program at the University of Georgia,” says John Glisson, associate dean for service and outreach.

“We are the team doctors for all the equine athletes on campus. Our faculty is routinely involved in the day to day health management of all the horses. We’re also involved in the beginnings of the breeding program,” he adds.

“The College is very involved in the horse industry in Georgia because we serve as a referral hospital for horses, which make up the largest portion of our large animal clientele.

“We look forward to increased participation in the equine program. We want to integrate our research, service, and teaching missions further with the needs of the growing equine industry in Georgia and beyond,” Glisson says.

“But one of the things that’s holding us up is facilities, both for the team and the Large Animal Hospital,” he adds. “The team needs a permanent facility and the veterinary college needs to expand its teaching hospital to be able to handle the growing number of horses we will continue to see in the future.”

Celebrities are his specialty

We’re beginning to call him “Veterinarian to the Stars.”

Bruce Hollett, professor, large animal medicine, who has been in charge of UGA’s medical care for years, is now taking on another celebrity patient: Level Sands, a 12-year-old dark bay registered American thoroughbred stallion that was donated to the University last year.

Named Stallion of the Year by the Georgia Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association, this retired race horse’s pedigree includes Kentucky Derby winners Secretariat and Northern Dancer.

“He boasts a stud fee of $1,500 and is considered to be the leading sire of thoroughbreds in the Southeast,” Hollett says. “We hope he will be a consistent producer of champion sport horses.”

Level Sands’ breeding will be shown and ridden by members of the equestrian team, while his stud fees will be used to generate revenue to help finance the breeding and to day health management of all the horses. We’re also involved in the beginnings of the breeding program,” he adds.

“Level Sands will be managed by Hollett and his colleagues at the College. The first two of five foals expected this year were already born in February.

Dr. Bruce Hollett and newborn foal of equestrian programs.

The breeding program planned for Level Sands will be managed by Hollett and his colleagues at the College. The first two of five foals expected this year were already born in February.

College puts new face forward in cyberspace

Continued from page 1

Clinical services available:
specialties, directory of clinicians

How to: make referrals, make appointments

The alumni site
Your news: an opportunity to tell us about changes of address, professional or personal news, and postings of class notes

Events: dates and details of receptions in cities throughout the Southeast, our Fall Social, the Annual Reunion, and UGA sports.

Annual Conference and Reunion: programs, forms for registering and booking a room, maps and directions, and class campaign update

Photos: candid photos from various events, photos of alumni award winners, class photos taken at reunions, as well as information about how to purchase prints.

College merchandise: what’s available, how to order it

The site for gift giving
Gift opportunities: descriptions of funds that help the College, the hospital, and animals

Ways to give: Online, cash or check, credit card, stock, bequest, memorializing a pet or a person

Meet our donors: names and profiles of donors

Questions or suggestions?
“We’re excited to provide this new information forum,” Glisson says. “And we’re always looking for ways to serve the veterinary community more efficiently.”

If you have questions or comments, please write to us at info@vet.uga.edu.”
College of Veterinary Medicine keeps Georgia Riders riding high

The Georgia Riders, UGA’s SEC and national championship equestrian team, is becoming the pride and joy of the College of Veterinary Medicine, the Athletic Department, and the Animal Science Department. The University’s 21st sport and 12th sport for women, the team became a varsity member and began formal competition in 2002. It is becoming the centerpiece of a statewide and regional equestrian program, providing academic instruction, equine breeding and research, as well as NCAA and SEC athletic competition.

The 62-member team is expected to attract top equine students and provide exceptional visibility for the University’s growing equine program. Georgia Riders had a successful first season, outscoring teams from the top 12 varsity schools. The Riders placed first at the Southern Equestrian Championships and won the Varsity National Championships in April last year.

The team’s coach, Meghan Boenig, was named co-winner of the Georgia Collegiate Sports Coach of the Year award in February. A structure next to the Animal Science Arena on South Milledge Avenue will one day be the team’s home site for competitions. It will serve the entire state and region’s equine community, enhancing what some consider one of the fastest growing areas of interest in Georgia.

In what was not only her first year as head coach, but also the first year of existence for Georgia’s varsity equestrian program, Meghan Boenig led the equestrian team to the 2003 Varsity National Championship. She also coached the team to a win at the Southern Equestrian Championships, which equates to competition for the SEC title, and has played a key role in equestrian’s development as an NCAA sport.

Boenig feels strongly that the College of Veterinary Medicine’s involvement with the team has been an important key to its success. "Here you have a scenario of 40 horses that unfortunately need sports medicine almost daily," she points out. "The horses have had some interesting ailments: everything including West Nile, broken bones, certainly some colic, and we’ve had mares and babies and foals in the breeding program. Incidentally, the horse that had West Nile received Dr. Michelle Barton’s special plasma treatment and was miraculously cured, so we were very excited about that."

The equestrian team has had a role in both teaching and research at the college, Boenig says. "I think I have a list of about seven classes we helped the College teach. When we bring in horses the students can see healthy animals and the injured ones hands on care. Our horses have been involved in research projects dealing with teardrop ratios, among other things."

"And of course we had a foal born last night (February 15th) and another three days later as part of our breeding program."

Alums have helped us out by donating horses. Our herd is 95% donated horses, so we’re very fortunate to have some very quality animals coming from them in the past. We’re selective about accepting donations but we certainly invite them.

"Alums have helped us out by donating horses. We’re selective about accepting donations but we certainly invite them."

When it comes to attracting students to the College, “it’s absolutely a huge draw,” she says. "There are students on my team who are applying to vet school right now. I’ve had some in the past that have been accepted. I think that’s going to continue to happen."

"Alums have helped us out by donating horses. We’re selective about accepting donations but we certainly invite them."

"I’d also like alumni to know that the equestrian team is an athletic event with our favorite animals involved. It’s something we really enjoy alumni coming out and participating with us."

An award-winning coach leads a championship team
Your alumni association: becoming more helpful and more responsive to you

By David Dreesen

Over the past two years your Alumni Association Board of Directors has paved the way for the association’s greater involvement in the activities of the College of Veterinary Medicine and its alumni.

Members of the Board have made some procedural changes that will, we believe, make the Board more responsive to your needs and the needs of the College.

For example:
• Under the leadership of Dr. Don McMillan, Sr. the bylaws were revised to reflect more accurately how the association actually functions.
• Dr. Sam Adams, your incoming Alumni Association president, chaired a committee to develop means by which the association and its members can be more involved in fundraising activities for the College.
• Dr. Henry Bohn chaired the committee that revised, to a considerable extent, the format for nominating and choosing alumni for awards presented annually at the Reunion Banquet.

The Alumni Association needs you, not only as a financial supporter of the College, but we need your advice and comments.

Best wishes to all. It has been an honor and privilege serving as your president. I hope you will give Dr. Adams your full cooperation and work with him – as you did with me – to improve our association and to support the College.

David Dreesen, DVM, DACVPM, Class of 1960, served as president of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine.

3-D images of distal limb offer inside look at laminitis

The structure of the equine distal limb are shown in vivid color and three dimensions in a new interactive Glass Horse model created by large animal faculty. The program, now available on a CD, is a successor to the popular Glass Horse model which showed how colic affects a horse’s gastrointestinal tract.

The distal limb animations can be manipulated so they can be viewed from all directions. The viewer can remove structures from the image to see underlying structures, or make bones transparent to see opposing parts and how they fit together.

“The horse’s distal limb is unbelievably complex,” said Jim Moore, professor of Large Animal Medicine, who developed the model along with his colleagues at the College.

“We’re making the program available to veterinarians and horse owners,” he adds, “but we’re also using it to help first-year veterinary students understand anatomy and third- and fourth-year students understand laminitis and other clinical conditions.

“The goal is to make them better veterinarians when they graduate and to give them a tool for explaining distal limb problems to their clients,” Moore said.

To buy a copy of the Elements of the Equine Distal Limb CD, go to www.3dglasshorse.com on the Internet, call 800-553-2400, or email info@vet.uga.edu.

Major in public health will be offered starting this fall

The University of Georgia will begin training the next generation of public health policy makers, practitioners, and researchers in the fall semester following the approval of a new UGA master’s degree program in public health by the Board of Regents.

Although the College of Veterinary Medicine is not listed in the original MPH proposal, CVM faculty members have planned a curriculum to allow MPH students to earn the degree with a major in veterinary public health.

“The College hopes to enroll students in the fall of 2004,” says Dean Keith W. Prasse. “This program fits well with a national initiative in veterinary medicine to increase the number of veterinarians in public health.”

“Please let us know at alumni@vet.uga.edu.

The South Poll

Your opinion, please!

• Which Alumni Association service or activity has been most useful to you?
• What service or activity would you like the Alumni Association to sponsor in the future?

The Alumni Association needs you, not only as a financial supporter of the College, but we need your advice and comments. (Please see form below.) Be active. It does make a difference.

In closing, I want to thank Ms. Wells, Ms. Dot Sparer, Director of Communications, and Ms. Kathy Bangle, Director of Development, as well as Dr. Doris Miller, Secretary to the Association, for their great help and advice these past two years.

Nominations are now accepted from a wider range of individuals and organizations, and the recipients of the awards are chosen by the committee. This is now a much more inclusive and efficient process than it was in the past.

Traditionally, the Board has been meeting once a year in April in conjunction with the Annual Reunion. This year, a second meeting of the Board was held last September to act on committee reports and provide, hopefully, meaningful advice to the College’s dean and associate deans.

In keeping with the increased activities of the Board, membership on the Board has been increased so that more of our alumni can be represented and directly involved with the association’s activities. Dr. Flynn Nance chairs the membership committee.

Please contact Belinda Wells, Director of Alumni Relations (alumni@vet.uga.edu), if you are interested in becoming a Board member or if you wish more information about the association.

Your opinion, please!

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• What service or activity would you like the Alumni Association to sponsor in the future?

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Best wishes to all. It has been an honor and privilege serving as your president. I hope you will give Dr. Adams your full cooperation and work with him – as you did with me – to improve our association and to support the College.

David Dreesen, DVM, DACVPM, Class of 1960, served as president of the Alumni Association from 2002 to 2004. He is currently president of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine.
Karen and Dewey White: A Portrait in Generosity

"We hate colic, and we want to do something about it!" That was Dewey and Karen W hit e's reaction when one of their race horses, Strong Arm Robbery, succumbed to the disease in the early 80s.

At the time James Moore, professor of large animal medicine, was starting a colic research program. The W hits jumped on the chance to help by donating lumber, tiles, paint -- everything needed to renovate a building behind the College to house Moore's laboratories in memory of Strong Arm Robbery.

Their donations came in a steady stream year after year and included proceeds from an annual colic research benefit.

"That's what got us started," W hit e remembers. "I think if there's anybody who hates colic worse than we do it's Jimmy Moore.*

Because her favorite riding horse suffered from laminitis, she says, "Colic and laminitis -- those are the two things we want Jimmy Moore to fix with our gifts, and they happen to be the two things he's interested in. It's a perfect match."

Their donations came in a steady stream year after year including much volunteer work with other horse lovers to put on five annual colic research benefits -- celebrity black-tie affairs held at the Ritz Carlton and other upscale hotels in Atlanta. Proceeds from the silent and live auctions went to Moore's research projects.

One of their most interesting interactions with the College centered on Shop Till You Drop, a year-ling destined to go to the sale in Kentucky. Her sire was young with his first crop racing as two year olds with very little success. The W hits knew they would not receive a lot of money for her.

But two days before she was to ship to the sale, she ran a piece of wire through her knee -- a very serious injury. requiring a month at the Large Animal Hospital and weeks to recuperate.

A short time later, the sire's offspring suddenly started to win race after race. Instead of giving her away, we had to keep her and race her. "Shop Till You Drop has now won almost $200,000," W hit e reports, "so she is going to be a super valuable brood mare for us."

But the story has an even happier ending -- one that exemplifies the W hits' generosity.

"On the way to her first big race we decided, whatever she wins, we're going to split the purse with the College of Veterinary Medicine and our other favorite charity," W hit e said.

The horse came in second and won $60,000.

Recently the W hits pledged a million dollars for equine research $200,000 a year for five years.

"We always wanted horses," says W hit e, who today has 39 thoroughbreds on W hit e Fox Farm in Winder, Georgia. In addition, a zebra (a birthday present to Dewey) roams around with the cows, while a burro keeps the horses company.

Recently the W hits pledged a million dollars for equine research -- $200,000 a year for five years.

"The biggest thing they've accomplished with this donation is to give us a way to hire support staff to work in the laboratory," says Moore.

He may use part of their gift for laboratory equipment, but most of it will be used to support people and projects that will help the research team compete for grants.

"Karen and Dewey were always there whenever we needed help, because they love their horses," Moore says. "You can always count on them."

Dean Keith W. Prasse adds, "The W hits are longtime benefactors and their pledge of a million dollars is a testament to their continuing generosity. "In addition, Karen W hit e serves as a helpful member of a steering committee which is working to fund a new hospital.

"Private gifts like these are becoming more vital every year. The W hits' continuing support is very important and gratefully acknowledged."

A big thank you from Brenda

Dear Friends,

There is no way I can ever truly express my appreciation for the kindness and generosity with which you remembered me upon my retirement from the College of Veterinary Medicine. I feel so loved and special.

The many cards, letters, flowers, telephone calls, as well as visits and personal gifts were overwhelming. I continue to be amazed as I reflect back over it all.

The financial gift allowed me to buy a new computer and to plan a trip to the Caribbean. Wow! The contributions to the Brenda Horton Trust have been more than awesome.

Please know, dear friends, that I thank you with all my heart! I'll cherish the memories and your friendship forever.

Love, Brenda

Continue your education at UGA

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<th>Course Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 12-13</td>
<td>Arthroscopy</td>
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<td>13-14</td>
<td>Small Animal Rigid Endoscopy</td>
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<td>April 16-18</td>
<td>41st Annual Veterinary Conference &amp; Alumni Reunion</td>
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<td>June 25-26</td>
<td>SA Soft Tissue Rigid Endoscopy</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Advanced Minimally Invasive Surgery</td>
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<td>August 22</td>
<td>Athens Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory</td>
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<td>September 12</td>
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<td>SA Soft Tissue Rigid Endoscopy</td>
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<td>October 23-24</td>
<td>Small Animal Soft Tissue Surgery</td>
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<td>December 4-5</td>
<td>Small Animal Infectious Diseases</td>
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<td>Advanced Exotic Animal Endoscopy</td>
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Karen and Dewey W hit e
Oscar Fletcher, DVM, PhD, will talk about opportunities facing the profession in this era of increased emphasis and understanding of the human-animal bond; reemergence of infectious diseases; emergence of new infectious diseases; threats of terrorism; and the global impacts of diseases like avian influenza and BSE.

Highlights of the conference

Keynote address
Are We Ready?
Oscar Fletcher, DVM, PhD, Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine
North Carolina State University

Small Animal Medicine
Vector Borne Diseases
Ed Breitschwerdt, ’74
Microalbuminuria Testing:
W. hy.W ho,W hen
Paul C. Eitland, ’74
Cytology of Lymph Nodes/skin
Lumps and Bumps
Ken Latimer, ’74
Prostatic Cancer in Dogs
Bruce LeRoy, ’89
Update on Feline Retroviruses
Andrew Loar, ’79
Veterinarian’s Role in Agroterrorism
Lee Myers, ’84

Large Animal Medicine
Joint Injection Techniques, GI Motility
and Drugs
Christina Cable, ’94
Mastitis Surveillance and Control
Dana Cole
Feedlot Expectations and Preconditioning Programs
Doug Ensley

Respiratory Surgery
Mary Ann Radinsky
Use of Potentiated Antibiotics
Branson Ritchie, ’85
Fitting Canine Reproduction into
Your Practice
Norm Roskin, ’74
Basic MRI for the Practitioner
Bob Toal, ’74
Client Connectivity – Strategies for
Growth and Loyalty
Jeff Sanford

Blister Beetle Toxicosis in Horses
Todd Holbrook, ’89
Veterinarian’s Role in Agroterrorism
Lee Myers, ’84
Equine West Nile Virus
Mary Rogers, ’99
Body Cavity Ultrasound for Equine Practitioners
Bob Toal, ’74
Goat Parasite Resistance
Lisa W. Williamson, ’81
Llama Medicine and Practice
Mike Zager, ’79
Client Connectivity – Strategies for
Growth and Loyalty
Jeff Sanford

General Interest
Thoracic Radiology: Review and Lab
21st Century
Drs. Royce Roberts, Barbara Selcer, Paul Frank

Special Events
Reunion Reception and Banquet
Fellowship Breakfast
University Partners and President’s Club breakfast
Top ten reasons for attending the 2004 reunion

10. Smile for the photographer who takes your reunion class's picture, and order one for your scrapbook.

9. See the new buildings and pedestrian malls that have sprung up on campus since your last visit.


7. Find out what former classmates have been up to since you saw them last.

6. Say hello to former professors and marvel at how they (like you) look younger than ever.

5. Earn 14 CE credits for attending courses about renal disease, soft tissue surgery, practice management, and other topics you want to know more about.

4. Hear our keynote speaker, Dr. Oscar Fletcher, '64, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University and former associate dean for academic affairs at UGA.

3. Congratulate the winners of this year's alumni awards.

2. Buy t-shirts, hats, and other CVM regalia from students of the Class of 2005.

1. Take advantage of your golden opportunity to make your class a winner in the Class Campaign Competition while supporting your alma mater at the same time.

Goings on around town

Friday, April 16

Open House at the College, 9am to 4pm.

Men's Tennis: UGA vs. Alabama, Dan Magill Tennis Complex, 5 pm.

Nicolas Kendall, violin, Performing Arts Center, 8 pm. Contact: 706-542-4400, www.uga.edu/pac.


Saturday, April 17

Twelfth Annual Garden Tour of Athens, presented by Piedmont Gardeners, 10 am – 5 pm. Contact: Peggy Cole, 706-549-9767, peggycole12@charter.net.


Dress for success at the '04 reunion

A wide variety of shirts and other merchandise (ably modeled here by Erin Menigo, '05, right) is available on the College's website. T-shirts, sweatshirts, vests, caps, even beanie babies are pictured on a website created by the Class of 2005 along with ordering instructions. College merchandise also will be available during the reunion in April. For details, contact Jennifer Neiss, '05 (left), at froggy@uga.edu.
Behavior service shines in publication spotlight

Athens Magazine, a lifestyle publication for Northeast Georgians with a circulation of 6,500, recently published a cover article about Behavior Specialist Sharon Crowell-Davis’s work in pet therapy.

Crowell-Davis serves as the director of the Animal Behavior Service at the College and teaches continuing education courses in animal behavior for veterinarians. She treats a wide variety of animals with behavior problems, including dogs, cats, birds, and farm animals.

“Major behavior problems include aggression, separation anxiety, storm phobia, and a persistent elimination problem,” said Crowell-Davis, as quoted in the 8-page article. To solve behavior problems, she believes in using positive reinforcement exclusively.

Many very aggressive dogs can be successfully treated, even if they initially come in wearing a muzzle.

Dog aggression can be a serious problem and dog bites are considered an epidemic by the Centers for Disease Control.

“Dog Bites cause 17 deaths a year in the United States, and several million people are bitten annually,” according to Crowell-Davis. “But many very aggressive dogs can be successfully treated, even if they initially come in wearing a muzzle,” she added.

Does UGA have the most loyal alums?

We think we do, but we’ll find out next June when the SEC Veterinary Pet Challenge results are in.

It’s a friendly competition between five SEC colleges, sponsored by Hill’s Pet Nutrition. The goal is to determine which college will win the prize money for having the highest percentage of alumni donors.

As of January, UGA was ahead of the pack, but LSU was hot on our trail and too close for comfort.

With your participation we can win. Any gift you make to any fund that helps support the College counts in this competition.

For more information, contact Brooke Stortz, 542.6807 or gifts@vet.uga.edu.

He’s never met a country he didn’t like

Major Russell L. Wiessinger III, DVM ’91, whose involvement in the Army Veterinary Corps has led him to more than 29 countries.

After earning his DVM at UGA, Wiessinger joined the Army Veterinary Corps and began his journey in San Diego, where he treated dolphins, beluga whales, and sea lions.

After two years, Wiessinger operated a large full service clinic in the Republic of Panama. Back again in the states, he was selected to be the veterinarian for the 5th Special Forces Group out of Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

Africa was his next stop. In the foothills of Mount Kenya he focused on herd health and preventive veterinary medicine programs for the Samburu and other tribes. Wiessinger now serves as Chief of Veterinary Medicine in Tokyo, where he operates a small animal hospital and cares for military working dogs. “It’s a big job with a lot of headaches,” Wiessinger said, but he seems to thrive on it.

In the foothills of Mount Kenya he focused on preventive medicine programs for the Samburu and other tribes. In his off hours, he functions as a tourist. Having already climbed Mt. Fuji, he continues to explore the countryside.

Once his assignment in Japan is over, Wiessinger will move to the tropical island of Guam to manage a clinic on the Naval base.

His next assignment? To be announced. Aesculapian plans to continue following him around the world.
Dr. Linda Medleau and Erin: a new team

Dermatologist Linda Medleau has been following a new guide dog around since last November. A graduate of Guiding Eyes for the Blind in New York, Erin came into Medleau's life when Lotus, her former canine companion, gave up the job at age 10.

Lotus now lives in happy retirement with Surgeon Karen Cornell, while Erin guides Medleau from home to bus to UGA and to errands. "She's really smart, and she's beginning to bond with me," Medleau says. "She's done a great job."

Diagnosed at age 18 with Usher Syndrome, Medleau became legally blind and deaf in her 30s but, thanks to a recent implant, her hearing has been restored. She recently returned from a cross-country skiing trip.

The Davison Life Sciences Building

"The Life Sciences Complex will be a lasting testament to his achievements, and an enduring symbol of our gratitude."

Fred C. Davison (DVM '52) has been granted one of the highest honors that the University bestows. The Life Sciences Building will be named for the former dean of the College and 17th University president.

"He is truly deserving of this recognition," says Dean Keith W. Prasse. "Because Drs. Fred and Dianne Davison are our alumni, and because of his service as the second dean of the College, we are also honored by this action.

Davison made scientific research a top priority of his administration.

"On behalf of the College of Veterinary Medicine, I want to express my sincere appreciation to Dr. Adams and the members of the University System Board of Regents for honoring Dr. Fred C. Davison in this way."

A Marietta native, Davison was named dean of the College in 1964 and served for two years before accepting the position of vice chancellor of the University System of Georgia. In 1969 he received the College's Distinguished Alumnus Award. In 1986, he assumed an endowed professorial chair in the College, where he continued to promote advancements in biotechnology.

Drs. Dianne and Fred Davison

Horses, exotics now included in memorial program

Veterinary practitioners will be interested to know about a change in our memorial program for cats and dogs which benefits our Companion Animal Fund.

We are now expanding this program to include horses, as well as iguanas, chameleons, ferrets, snakes, guinea pigs, and other exotic animals.

To participate in this program, a veterinarian makes a gift to the fund in memory of a client's deceased pet. The veterinarian receives the contribution tax credit, while the pet's owner receives a personalized letter from the College acknowledging the veterinarian's contribution.

The minimum gift per exotic animal is $10. Minimum gifts for horses are $25.

Proceeds from memorial gifts enhance our research capabilities, helping to fund studies by our faculty members.

In addition, the program makes clients feel appreciated, knowing that their veterinarian has made a gift in memory of their companion animal.

For details about the program, email gifts@vet.uga.edu or call Brooke Stortz, 542.6807.

Horses, exotics now included in memorial program.

Medleau and Erin: a new team

Dermatologist Linda Medleau has been following a new guide dog around since last November. A graduate of Guiding Eyes for the Blind in New York, Erin came into Medleau's life when Lotus, her former canine companion, gave up the job at age 10.

Lotus now lives in happy retirement with Surgeon Karen Cornell, while Erin guides Medleau from home to bus to UGA and to errands. "She's really smart, and she's beginning to bond with me," Medleau says. "She's done a great job."

Diagnosed at age 18 with Usher Syndrome, Medleau became legally blind and deaf in her 30s but, thanks to a recent implant, her hearing has been restored. She recently returned from a cross-country skiing trip.
For referring practitioners: News you can use

Alumni have told us they’d like information about new clinicians on our faculty - to find out what their specialties are and what types of cases to refer to them.

Bente Flatland
Where are you from?
I was born in Norway, but raised in Alabama. My name is Norwegian.

Where did you get your degrees?

Where have you been employed?
General private practice in Birmingham, for three years from 1997-2000. Then came to the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine.

What do you consider your specialty?
Gastroenterology (diseases of the gastrointestinal tract, liver, and pancreas) and flexible endoscopy. I’m also fond of adrenal gland diseases.

I’m actively involved in the small animal hospital’s Endoscopy Services User Group and in training small animal medicine residents to perform flexible endoscopy.

What types of cases would you like to have referred to you?
Diabetes mellitus cases and GI cases, particularly cases requiring endoscopy. Training residents to perform flexible GI endoscopy is one of my main responsibilities. Accordingly, I like to get endoscopy cases referred to me when I am on clinic duty.

These cases are often seen by the residents under my direct supervision. When I may or may not meet the clients personally, I do examine the patients, review the records, and personally supervise the endoscopic procedures.

D. Laura Ridge, our 2nd year medicine resident, and I have a study going on about antithrombin III concentrations in dogs with protein-losing enteropathy, so we would certainly be happy to see cases meeting the inclusion criteria for that study. (Email flatland@vet.uga.edu for details.)

Nicole Northrup
Where are you from?
Utica, in central New York State

Where did you get your degrees?
My DVM at Cornell University, my internship at the Animal Medical Center in New York City, and my residency at Tufts University.

Where have you been employed?

What do you consider your specialty?
Small animal oncology

What types of cases would you like to have referred to you?
Patients with cancer. I have a particular interest in patients with hematologic and lymphoid neoplasia.

Marc Kent
Where are you from?
Connecticut

Where did you get your degrees?
My DVM at Tufts University, internship at the Animal Medical Center in New York City, internal medicine residency at Tufts University, and neurology residency at the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine.

Where have you been employed?
At the Animal Medical Center and Tufts University as part of my internship and residency training. Came to the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine in 2001.

What do you consider your specialty?
Neurology

What types of cases would you like to have referred to you?
Intracranial problems or other brain diseases and CNS intracranial or spinal cord neoplasia.

Special offer to CVM alumni

Jill Leite’s original watercolors and prints are collected by University officials, faculty, and generations of alumni. Signed and numbered by the artist, preserved with the finest materials and craftsmanship, this stately scene of the College is available double-matted and framed. Perfect gifts for alumni.

A percentage of print sales is donated to the Foundation for the College of Veterinary Medicine. Officially licensed by the University of Georgia.

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Unframed: price $40, shipping $4 (10” x 14.5”)
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W ho are the students in this photo taken in 1968? If you can identify them, please contact editor Dot Sparer at alumni@vet.uga.edu or write to her at College of Veterinary Medicine, Barrow Hall, Athens 30602-2405.
Noah’s Ark revisited by CVM

In case of hurricane, flood, or fire, Northeast Georgians will now have a shelter for their pets — a virtual Noah’s Ark for evacuated animals.

The College joined forces with the Humane Society and the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences to establish a crisis pet shelter at UGA’s Livestock Instructional Area. Historically there has been a people shelter at the University of Georgia campus, but no place for pets to go if natural disaster strikes. Many hotel rooms will not allow pets.

The College began an effort to establish the shelter last year at the request of Dean Keith W. Prasse. “It’s surprising that it hasn’t happened before, but it’s coming together very nicely,” said Cheryl Roberts, lecturer in the Anatomy and Radiology Department.

“The College now has the nicest shelter in the state, and the pavilion is ideal for housing animals,” Roberts said.

“Establishing the shelter provides the College with another opportunity to fulfill its service mission to the citizens of Georgia.” Veterinary students will volunteer time to care for the animals. “This will be a wonderful opportunity for students to give back to the state of Georgia and the people who help fund their education,” she adds.

In an effort to strengthen and expand information technology at the College, Matt Blankenship has been hired for the new position of IT Director. Asclepius interviewed Blankenship shortly after he arrived.

How long have you been in your current position?
12 weeks

How would you describe your position?
Mine is a new position created because the College leadership saw a need to formalize and improve IT services. Specifically, my team is responsible for all personal computers that serve faculty and staff and those that are used to teach students in computer laboratories. We’re responsible for all the servers, cables, routers, and switches that network the College’s computers together. My department is also responsible for developing the College’s new website.

I have 12 major initiatives — promises I need to keep — but the main one is creating a formal information technology organization to serve the College. That entails developing the staff, strategy, procedures, and budget.

I’d like to try to standardize operations so the staff doesn’t have to learn and work on so many different systems. A huge item on my list is the unique information system that serves the teaching hospital, the diagnostic laboratories in Athens and Tifton, and the clinical pathology laboratory.

It was developed by our faculty in the late 1990s to manage inventory, medical records, pharmacy and business operations. Just about all information generated by the clinical staff and students.

Describe a typical day for you
I like to say good morning to everybody in my group, then check my email to see what hot button items are the fare of the day — there usually are several.

Of course there’s always a crisis — we’ve had a terrible rash of viruses and worms and an infiltration of spam emails lately, and almost every day we’re faced with server problems.

I meet with the other IT directors on campus once a month to talk about common problems and opportunities for collaboration. And I like to do a walk-around to find at least one problem that people are suffering and to hear first-hand if we’re helping them effectively.

What’s the most rewarding part of your job?
I enjoy troubleshooting — bringing people together to analyze a problem and coming up with a creative solution or as well as helping people on my staff find some joy in what they do every day.

What’s the most challenging part of your job?
Limited resources, unlimited problems to solve.

There are equally challenging IT jobs on campus, but one of the things that makes the veterinary college unique is that it operates 24/7. People in the hospital use the IT system at all hours of the day and night.

The veterinary college is definitely a complex operation. It consists of 8 to 10 buildings on the main campus, plus the Poultry Disease Research Center and the Athens and Tifton diagnostic laboratories.

There are at least 15 servers. Many are 4-8 years old and need upgrading. We have 5-10 different accounting systems and old budgeting/accounting software which is being rewritten from a DOS program to a more useful system.

What was your previous work experience?
I grew up in Athens and worked my way through UGA on the swing shift at Dupont for seven years. After I got my MBA at the UGA Terry College of Business, I worked for an international forest products business as manager of information systems and for IBM in the global business consulting unit. My office was in an airplane for five years! I spent less than a month in IBM’s Atlanta office.

Rather than simply being PC trouble shooters, I’d like my unit to help instructors, clinicians, and researchers do their jobs more effectively through technology.

If you were not doing this job, would you most like to do?
I’d like to be a professional fisherman. I’ve seen a lot of people at fishing tournaments winning $75,000 for catching the biggest fish. I think that would be great and, if you didn’t catch the big one, two small fish could feed the family.

What are your off-the-job interests?
Working with my wife to figure out how to raise our three children, since there’s no instruction book. I have an 11-, 8-, and 6-year-old, and they’re very active.

We spend most of our time at the swimming pool in the Ramsey Center. Each of the children is involved in a swim team. The 11-year-old is state champion in two different strokes.

Who is the person you admire most?
I’m not trying to score points, but I’d have to say it’s my wife. She’s been able to help me grow up a little bit, and we’ve been through a lot of difficult times together.

How would you sum up your reactions to your new position?
I’m really excited about this job and I’m anxious to meet the challenges. There’s a lot to be done, and we’ve got a good team of people here to do it.

I’d like to make us an IT organization that is a thought leader. Rather than simply being PC trouble shooters, I’d like my unit to help instructors, clinicians, and researchers do their jobs more effectively through technology.
To recognize his distinguished achievement in public service and outreach, Dr. Anant Jain received the 2004 Walter Barnard Hill Award. This is the third Hill Award a faculty member of the College has received.

Senior public service associate and head of the toxicology section at the Athens Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Jain has been a driving force in the section’s establishment. He is recognized as a national leader in test development and validation.

Five awards are presented each year by the University to recognize distinguished achievement in public service and outreach and for contributions made to improve the quality of life in Georgia. Each recipient receives a permanent salary increase of $2,000.

Jain has provided more than 18,000 toxicology reports to veterinarians and performed over 5,000 consultations.

“Dr. Jain is one of those stalwart faculty members who is quietly and competently doing an excellent job, all the while making a lasting and critical contribution to those he serves,” said Dean Keith Prasse. “We’re proud of him and pleased for him for receiving this award.”

Named for former UGA chancellor Walter Barnard Hill, the Hill Awards acknowledge faculty members who have applied University-generated knowledge to the problems of the state.

Alumni Honors

Jain gets top honors from UGA for outstanding service

Dr. Ed Breitschwerdt ('74) recently delivered a dedication lecture to honor Dr. Sidney Ewing, ('58), at Oklahoma State University at his retirement.

Dr. Dan Brogdon ('78) was recently awarded the prestigious Gold Star Award by the Florida Veterinary Medical Association for his outstanding service to the veterinary profession.

Dr. M. Ann Herschl ('90) was inducted into Morris Animal Foundation’s Veterinary Honor Roll for her work with an English springer spaniel.

In Memoriam

David Forehand (DVM ’76) February 8, 2004 – Atlanta, Georgia

Fred Jones (DVM ’53) January 27, 2004 – Tampa, Florida

Dale Lott (DVM ’83) February 3, 2003 – Athens, Georgia

Joel F. Mahler (DVM ’77) December 17, 2002 – Chapel Hill, North Carolina

William H. Marsh (DVM ’56) August 21, 2003 – Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Clayton McKinnon (DVM ’88) January 18, 2003 – Florence, South Carolina

Eugene E. Musselman Jr. (DVM ’57) May 19, 2002 – Tappahannock, Virginia

Roscoe Edwin Treadwell (DVM ’54) November 8, 2003 – Wilmington, North Carolina

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

“Lord, please make me the kind of person my dog thinks I am.”

- Reverend Warren Keating