

HOOF PRINTS - VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

AUTUMN 2006

MANOR COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER DATE



www.manorvettech.com

FROM THE DESK OF DR. BASSERT

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

NEW AND IMPROVED TEACHING AIDS	2
PROJECT RUNNING HAPPY PAWS	3
CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINARS	4
FOCUS ON MANOR ALUMNI	4
HAUNTED VET TECH PARTY, DIRECTIONS TO THE PARTY	6

Program Mission Statement

The Program of Veterinary Technology at Manor College strives to:

Create an environment that supports the development of strong student-teacher relationships.

Generate critical thinkers whose knowledge base prepares them for a successful career of life long learning in veterinary technology.

Instill in its students respect and compassion for animals and a commitment to providing excellent patient care and dedication to animal welfare.

The beginning of this academic year has been filled with excitement and activity as new students arrive and returning students find improvements and changes on-campus suggestive of the busy summer that we have had. Three new renovation projects in the Clinical Microscopy Laboratory, the cafeteria and the bookstore were underway simultaneously during July and August, making for long, but also gratifying days.

Using the creative design and organizational genius of Assistant Professor, Nancy Ceranic, together with the hard work of the Maintenance Department and funding from the Connelly Foundation, the Clinical Microscopy Lab (Room 17) was gutted and remodeled with new cabinets,

counters, and a suspended ceiling (Photo 1). Even the radiator covers, blinds, eye wash station and air-conditioners were replaced. In addition, 12 brand new microscopes (one for every student) were purchased, which augmented the existing equipment including a ceiling mounted LCD projector, a computerized microscope and the Idexx clinical chemistry unit that was acquired last year with the assistance of Julie Hirsch-Banyacski, CVT '98 and Brandy Terry, CVT '99. A great deal of thought was put into every aspect of the new laboratory. Even the chairs were carefully selected for their comfort, adjustability and their special burn proof fabric. Microbiology, parasitology, hematology and clinical chemistry will take on a whole

new meaning for students using the renovated lab this year!

Just outside Room 17, students are enjoying the new menu, furniture and layout of the cafeteria (Photo 2). Wireless Internet access also gives students and faculty the convenience of being able to work on laptops while taking a coffee break or eating a meal. Down the hall from the cafeteria, Mary Zakrzewski organized the renovation of her bookstore (Photos 3 and 4). The outcome is a more attractive and efficient bookstore, which now offers students an expanded selection of books and supplies throughout the school year.

It has been a busy summer, indeed, but one that now bears fruit for all of us!



Photo 1: A new look for the Clinical Microscopy Laboratory



Photo 2: New furniture and a new food service give the cafeteria a different feel and taste!



Photo 3: Bookstore manager, Mary Zachrzewski, works in a new venue

Photo 4: A wider selection of books, athletic wear and stationary supplies abound

ORDER MANOR MERCHANDISE

Mugs, clothing, etc

From the Development and Alumni Relation Office:

development@manor.edu



New and Improved Teaching Aids, By Dr. Sara Busch

A quick stroll down memory lane of your years at Manor College will likely conjure up memories of hours spent studying anatomy and struggling to learn to suture on sponges. Well, students will no longer have to struggle with the not-so-real feel of suturing on sponges anymore. This summer Dr. Bassert discovered that the same person who preserves the cat cadavers for our anatomy class has developed a new material that so closely resembles real skin tissue it is almost eerie. The new material is called

"skinthetic." The skinthetic material is a proprietary polymer exclusively designed and distributed by Preservation Specialties, LLC based in Michigan. It contains **no latex** or toxic materials. The skinthetic model has the feel and elongation of real skin and also is engineered to be self sealing. This allows the student and instructor to layout various incisions into the model and repetitively suture the patterns closed. I am looking forward to introducing this year's surgical students to this new teaching tool.

Also from Preservation Specialties, Manor vet tech students will soon be getting another newly preserved cat to use to study anatomy. This cat was meticulously and carefully dissected and prepared for preservation by current sophomore extern, Yaritza Martinez-Santiago (pictured). Yaritza's hard-work combined with Preservation Specialties techniques will enable another group of vet tech students to learn the ins-and-outs (so to speak!) of animal anatomy.



Yaritza Martinez-Santiago

Project Running Happy Paws, Working with Animals in the Southwest, By Brandy Terry



Elizabeth Manko (right) from Manor College sedates a dog with a Navajo student from the Crown Point Institute of Technology



Larae Cunningham from Manor College auscultates the chest of a sick calf.

Every year a select group of sophomores goes to New Mexico and Arizona. The students work with Americans for Native Americans (ANA) a non-profit organization based in Doylestown, PA to provide preventive medicine for Native American companion animals. These clinics usually last one week and give the student an opportunity to provide supportive nursing care for both small and large animals. Project Running Happy Paws is an eye opening and heart warming experience for everyone involved. The Program of Veterinary Technology at Manor College, in conjunction with ANA, has participated in preventive medicine clinics on southwestern Native American lands for the past 5 years. Selected students from the Program of Veterinary Technology help veteri-

narians care for hundreds of cats, dogs, horses, and cattle in low-cost clinics. The clinics are established and funded by ANA.

Each clinic is approximately one week long and provides primarily spay and neutering services to companion animals, and de-worming and immunizations to horses and cattle. Student veterinary technicians prepare animals for surgery, induce anesthesia and clean and sterilize surgical instruments. In addition, they assist with the restraint of horses and cattle, administer de-worming medication, float teeth, administer immunizations, and assist the farrier and veterinarian with hoof care, and castrations respectively.

Project Running Happy Paws is both popular and competitive among

Manor's student body. Space is limited and students are often selected based on their cumulative grade point average and on their ability to work well in a team. At the clinic in Crown Point, New Mexico, Manor students work side by side with Navajo students who are enrolled in the Veterinary Assisting Program at the Crown Point Institute of Technology. The Institute is hoping to acquire AVMA accreditation soon, making it the first AVMA-accredited program on Native American lands.

Since we started this program the interest from the students has grown tremendously. We have had to implement a selection process to help us decide which students would be the best students to represent Manor College.

Each trip to the Southwest has been led by a Manor faculty member who has mentored students during this exciting learning experience. As the project expands to include clinics on Hopi, Sunni and other Native American reservations, the College seeks clinically experienced graduates to accompany and mentor students. If you are interested in participating in Project Happy Running Paws, please contact me at (215) 885-2360 Ext. 227 or e-mail: bterry@manor.edu

Continuing Education

Pain Management and Quality of Life

Speaker: Ray Stock, VMD, MBE
Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc.

Discussed Topics:
The Pathology of Pain
Pain Management Ethics
Emerging Trends of Pain Management
Canine Osteoarthritis

Date: Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2006
Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm
Fee: \$35.00

Lyme Disease and Other Tick-Borne Infection

Speaker: Meryl P. Littman, VMD, DACVIM
Associate Professor of Medicine
University of Pennsylvania
School of Veterinary Medicine

Discussion Topics:
Diagnosis, Treatment, & Prevention of Lyme Disease in Dogs
Other Tick-Borne Infectious Diseases in Lyme Endemic Areas

Date: Thursday, Nov. 16, 2006
Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm
Fee: \$35.00

Focus on Manor Alumni, By Jennifer Harrison '07

This summer, veterinary technology student, Jennifer Harrison, traveled to a number of veterinary practices to interview Manor College graduates, and to find out where they were in their professional and personal lives. Here is the first of a series of interviews by Jennifer.

Bio:

Alumna: Ashley Shmidheiser Lester, CVT

Class of: 2004

Area of Interest: Large Animal Nursing

Current Position: Veterinary Nurse, New Bolton Center, University of Pennsylvania

Interview:

Jennifer: How did you become interested in large animals?

Ashley: I have always loved animals, especially horses and other farm animals.

When I was a teenager, a horse that I worked with developed severe laminitis due to a hind limb laceration. I was the primary caregiver throughout her recovery and was directly involved in carrying out the treatments. After 2 years of aggressive treatment, however, we ended up having to euthanize her. That experience really sparked my interest in the medical side of animal handling.

Jennifer: How long have you been working at the New Bolton Center?

Ashley: I have been employed there for three years now.

Jennifer: What is your most exciting professional moment so far?



Ashley Lester, CVT

Ashley: I enjoyed being able to travel out west with Americans for Native Americans and donating my time and skills to help the animals on the reservations. I participated in Manor's program "Project Running Happy Paws" when I was a student, and then went back to the southwest again after I graduated. At the New Bolton Center, I really enjoy working with famous animals such as Kentucky Derby winner Barbaro and also the Budweiser Clydesdales.

Jennifer: How has your family played a role in your career?

Ashley: I am married and have one child, a six-month-old son. My family has always come first, so finding a schedule that accommodates that has been difficult. I was able to arrange to work 3 days a week, 12 hour shifts. That way my husband is home with our son on the weekends, and I have him during the week. We only have to worry about childcare for one day. It works well for now. I am also very close to my parents and sister, who are also very into horses. My sister is an accomplished rider and shows in both hunter and jumper divisions. My mom prefers more of a laid back trail ride. They all enjoy hearing stories from work, and have been a huge influence in helping me get where I am now.

Jennifer: What was your career path to your current job?

Ashley: I was going to apply to schools and get my bachelors degree, and hopefully continue on to vet school. However, the opportunity came up to work at New Bolton, and I decided to try that for a while. I loved it so much, I decided to stay.

Jennifer: What do you like best about your work at the NBC?

Ashley: The job is never dull. I am always learning new things, and refreshing myself about stuff I learned at Manor. I have the opportunity to use so many technical skills that I would not use if I were not in a teaching, university setting. I enjoy teaching, and I have the opportunity to help vet students and also technician students, some of whom have never seen a horse before.

Jennifer: What is your recommendation to others interested in your field?

Ashley: Grow a thick skin. You are constantly in pressure filled situations, and things are said that are not really meant. You have to be able to focus, do your job, and not let politics get to you. Find the ability to brush off words, and just give the best care you can to the animals. That's why you entered the field in the first place! Also, go on the Internet and look up job descriptions to see what you are getting into.

Jennifer: Since you see famous horses sometimes, are they treated any differently then regular horses?

Ashley: Famous animals, such as Barbaro, receive the same care as any other animal. They all pay for the same services, and that is what they receive. If owners take their pets to a high quality facility, it will receive the best care, whether it is a valuable show- or racehorse, or someone's pet goat.

Jennifer: Thank you, Ashley. I think this interview will give students, who are not familiar with large animals, a better idea of what a career in this area would be like.

Ashley: You're welcome and thank you.

Great Job Available at PACCA!

The Philadelphia Animal Care and Control Association (PACCA) is looking for a certified veterinary technician to play a key leadership role in the management of staff, and in assisting veterinarian(s) and veterinary medical students (from the University of Pennsylvania) during surgery. A job description and a full list of duties is available on line at <http://www.manorvettech.com/jobopp.html>. For more information, contact:

Susan Cosby, (215) 685-9040, Susan.cosby@phila.gov



Don't be scared....

haunted vet tech party

When: Saturday, October 28, 2006

Time: When the vampires rise—6 pm until 9 pm

Where: The Dome... if you dare!

Who: All Vet. Tech. friends, students, faculty, staff,
graduates and their families are welcome.

What to Bring: Your favorite dessert, salad or main course.

(Non-poisonous drinks will be provided)

What to Wear: Come as you are OR do NOT come as you are.

Come as you would like to be... **IN COSTUME.**



The Bassert Residence

641 Harts Ridge Road

Home: (484) 530-0138

Office: (215) 885-2360 Ext. 221

Directions to the Bassert Dome-Home

(Head towards Lafayette Hill and Miquon)

From Manor College:

1. From Jenkintown, take Township Line Road west to Washington Lane
2. Turn left onto Washington Lane to Church. Turn right onto Church.
3. Follow Church passed Arcadia University and take left onto Waverly.
4. Turn right onto Cheltenham Ave.
5. Go to first light and take left onto Willow Grove Ave.
6. Go through Wyndmoor and take right onto Stenton Ave.
7. Follow Stenton to 5-point intersection.
Take left onto old Stenton Ave. (If you go straight, you will be on Bethlehem Pike).
8. Follow Stenton passed Morris Arboretum, take left at light onto Northwestern Ave
9. You will pass Chestnut Hill College on left (note interesting Spanish architecture)
10. Turn right at light onto Germantown Pike, Bruno's is on the corner.
11. Follow Germantown Ave. to place where road bends to the right
(the General Lafayette Inn should be in front of you). Turn left onto Church Rd at the Inn.
12. Pass St. Peters on right. Cross Ridge Ave. As you cross Ridge, Church turns into Harts Lane. Stay on Harts Lane.
13. Cross Baron Hill Road and go up scary, narrow, big hill.
14. Turn right onto Harts Ridge Road (at top of ridge).
15. The Dome is the second driveway on the right.

Address:

Joanna Bassert
641 Harts Ridge Road
Conshohocken, PA 19428
H: (484) 530-0138
C: (215) 460-5670
