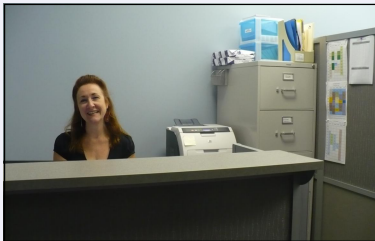


## Veterinary Technology Office Renovation



Charmaine welcomes visitors to the new office

dramatically changed the dynamic of the office space. Dr. Bassert, Dr. Komurek, Beverly and Charmaine then began brainstorming layout ideas, color

schemes, carpet choices, desk choice and , Dr. K's personal favorite: purchasing new office supplies!

The centerpiece of the new office is the reception desk and student waiting area. When you walk into the office you are greeted with a cheerful "Hello" from Charmaine

and there is now a comfy chair for you to sit in while you wait to speak with one of the faculty members.

The walls are an inviting and cheery blue, and Dr. Bassert, Dr. Komurek and Beverly each have their own cubicle space.

Please be sure to stop in to check out the new office and say "Hi" the next time you are on campus!



Many months of planning came to fruition over the summer as the renovation project for the veterinary technology office was completed.

Earlier in the academic year the Program received permission to move the wall shared with the multi-media room over by 5 feet. It may sound like a small amount of space, but it

## Noted and Noteworthy...

In August, Dr. Joanna Bassert received the Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical Association President's Award in recognition of her efforts in promoting veterinary technology and veterinary technicians in Pennsylvania. We are all so very proud of Dr. Bassert and rejoice in the state-wide recognition of her varied achievements.



PVMA President, Mark Fox, VMD presents Joanna Bassert, VMD with the 2011 PVMA President's Award

### Welcome New Faculty!

**Lisa Berkenstock, BS, CVT, CPDT-KA:** Animal Behavior Instructor

**Elisa Bobrin, DVM:** Clinical Chemistry and Urinalysis Lab Instructor

**Tana Hawes, BS, LATG:** Lab Animal Medicine Instructor

**Lorelei Lankin, CVT, LAT:** Lab Animal Medicine Lab Instructor

**Amy Poulin, VMD, DACVS:** Animal Surgery Lecture Instructor

**Christopher Reetz, DVM:** Introduction to VT Instructor, Animal A&P I Lab Instructor, Animal Radiology Lab Instructor

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## Program Director's Corner

Bisaccia, Dr. Kathianne Komurek and I travelled to the SUNY campus in Delhi, New York to attend a meeting of the Northeast Veterinary Technician Educators Association (NEVTEA), which was being held in conjunction with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. It was a festive occasion including many graduates of the Delhi program who returned to campus for the celebration.

Dr. Kathianne Komurek and I travelled to the SUNY campus in Delhi, New York to attend a meeting of the Northeast Veterinary Technician Educators Association (NEVTEA), which was being held in conjunction with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. It was a festive occasion including many graduates of the Delhi program who returned to campus for the celebration.

Dr. Collins helped establish the first veterinary technology program at the SUNY campus in Delhi. He served on the faculty for a number of years, developed curricula and wrote several articles expounding on the importance of formal education of animal health technicians. Later in his career, Dr. Collins moved to Michigan, where he helped to establish the veterinary technology program at Michigan State University; now regarded as one of the finest programs in the country.

I had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Walter Collins, who is regarded as the "Father of Veterinary Technology." I had interviewed Dr. Collins on the phone several times when I was preparing the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians*, but until this summer, we had not met face to face. Despite his advanced years, Dr. Collins is an energetic man with a lot of enthusiasm and passion for veterinary medicine still.

Dr. Collins began as a mixed animal practitioner in the rural counties surrounding Delhi. As a young veterinarian, he quickly realized the need for skilled, tech-

As we contemplate the past 50 years of the profession, there are many individuals who stand out as having made significant contributions to veterinary technology. It is a profession developed by many, but was initially forged by only a few; one of them was Dr. Walt Collins, and for this we are indebted to him.

*M Bassett*

It has been an exciting year for the profession of veterinary technology as it celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the first veterinary technology program at the State University of New York in Delhi. Coincidentally, it is also the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the profession of veterinary medicine, which began with the opening of the first veterinary medical college in Lyon, France in 1761. The far reaching impact of these "firsts" could not have been anticipated when the first students stepped on campus. Now, amid an unprecedented range of technological advances, we are poised to move into an exciting future in veterinary technology and medicine. Linear accelerators, MRI, CT and PET scans are some of the diagnostic tools available in state-of-the-art specialty practices today. How remarkable it is that the profession has advanced to this point!

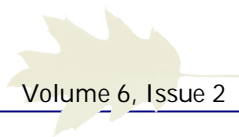
This summer, Beverly



Dr. Walt Collins



Dr. Collins (right) with his sister and Dr. Jodi Rockett (left) at the 2011 NEVTEA meeting in Delhi, NY



## Meet the Faculty: Trina Russell, VMD

Dr. Trina Russell, a graduate of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, joined the Program in 2006 as instructor of the Animal Parasitology lecture. In addition to being a valued adjunct faculty member at Manor, Dr. Russell is a relief veterinarian at three local veterinary hospitals. She is also active in shelter medicine; participating in the Montgomery County Health Department's Annual Rabies Vaccine Clinics for over 10 years and volunteering for the spay/neuter clinics of the Montgomery County SPCA and the Berks County Animal Rescue League.



## Annual Advisory Committee Meeting: Student Safety

By Alyssa Mages, Student Liaison

It's your first day of your sophomore externship and you have been placed in the ICU. You're excited, nervous, and yet eager to demonstrate all that you've learned. In your enthusiasm you jump right in on an emergency triage, and realize you are in over your head, but not before the dysphoric patient left its mark on your arm.

Incidents like this are easily avoidable, and yet all too often occur when a veterinary technology student is either personally overzealous, or is simply not properly guided. When a student has all the "book smarts" they can possibly cram into their heads, sometimes there isn't enough room left over for the practical and hands-on learning that occurs on the job. It is therefore then the responsibility of the student's new supervisors to step in, step up, and keep the student safe all the while nurturing the passion that got that student into the field of veterinary technology in the first place – wanting to provide quality healthcare for any and all animals.

Guest speakers Allison Gottlieb, CVT, VTS (ECC) and Jessica Kerr, CVT, VTS

(ECC), established Four Paws Consulting; a consulting company that focuses on enjoyable, and concurrently constructive learning seminars to promote the skills and roles of veterinary technicians in private practice. They spoke to the Advisory Committee about methods and techniques to keep the training environment safe, stable, and supportive for the student during their sophomore externships. Providing this environment is critical in developing a more cohesive practice, and a much more accomplished technician.

Being safe around animals does not only apply to those that you can walk on a leash or hold in your arms. Guest speaker, Sarah Del Ricci, Equine Director of the Pegasus Riding Academy spoke about equine safety, specifically her on-campus training program for the members of the Program's Horse Care Team, and about barn facility maintenance and safety. She discussed the importance of respecting our large animal companions, especially our equine friends. While these animals are quite beautiful and can be very gentle, it is absolutely crucial to remember that they are

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## Program of Veterinary Technology Calendar of Events

October 10th— 14th, 2011	National Veterinary Technician Appreciation Week
Sunday October 29, 2011	Manor VT @ PAWS Mutt Strutt
Wednesday, December 14, 2011	IACUC Meeting
Saturdays January 7—February 25th 2012	Preparatory Course for the VTNE
Friday, April 27, 2012	Pinning Ceremony
Wednesday, May 16, 2012	Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 17, 2012	Commencement

## Annual Advisory Committee Meeting (cont'd)

at heart 'wild', and can revert to that type of behavior if not treated properly. From proper handling within the barn and/or stall, to being out in the field, it is imperative for the students to have an experienced technician or an instructor with them, to ensure that they are starting with the proper protocols before they are left unsupervised to care for their equine patients.

Overall the take home message here is that while a student may have a formal education in place, it will be their experience out in the real world that will ultimately be their true teacher. In that vein it is of the utmost importance that the nursing supervisors in charge of their instruction be aware at all times of the student's safety.