

# HOOF PRINTS - VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

SUMMER 2008

MANOR COLLEGE



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## FROM THE DESK OF DR. BSSERT

### BUILDING A CULTURE OF SERVICE

Since its beginning in 1992, the Program of Veterinary Technology has been a leader in Manor's academic community in many ways. It was the first Program to have a website, the first to create distance education courses, the first to be awarded both State and Federal grants and the first to generate textbooks. This fall, the Program of Veterinary Technology was the first to hold a phone-a-thon, which successfully raised over half the funds needed to purchase important patient monitoring equipment for the surgical assisting and anesthesiology laboratories. I am proud of these accomplishments and wish to relay to you yet another area in which the Program is an emerging leader; providing service to others. The number of service projects in which the Program has been involved has expanded greatly during the past few years. These projects have helped animals and pet owners, and have given students an opportunity to gain clinical skills and to see first hand the importance of giving to others.

Many of you are familiar with Project Running Happy Paws, a volunteer program that takes Manor veterinary technology students and faculty to remote areas of the American Southwest to assist in make-shift preventive health clinics. Manor students work side by side with volunteer veterinary personnel from around the country to provide free surgical and medical services to both the large and small animals of Native Americans. The trips typically occur during the months of October and April when the New Mexican and Arizona weather can accommodate outdoor treatment stations. The clinics treat hundreds of animals that otherwise would not receive any veterinary care.

In addition, sophomore students enrolled in Dr. Kathianne Komurek's VT217 Small Animal Clinical Procedures Course, participated in laboratories this fall held at Philadelphia's largest shelter, the Philadelphia Animal Care and Control Association (PACCA). Students performed physical examina-



tions and provided preventive nursing to homeless cats and dogs. Tens of thousands of animals pass through PACCA annually, many of which have never received veterinary care. In addition, under Dr. Komurek's leadership, PACCA animals are brought to Manor in the spring semester where they are spayed and neutered as part of the VT226 Surgical Assisting and VT218 Anesthesia laboratories. Last spring, the program helped save the lives of 80 animals through its on-campus spaying and neutering program, which was an unprecedented number of surgeries performed in one semester.



Students at PACCA

## HOOF PRINTS - VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

Also this fall, Beverly Bisaccia, CVT organized the first veterinary blood drive at the College. The focus of the blood drive centered upon a visit by Penn's Animal Blood Mobile which arrived on Monday evening. As this was the first visit by the Blood Mobile, donor dogs were carefully screened for their suitability as blood donors. Many students volunteered their dogs and had the opportunity to see first hand the inner workings of the Animal Blood

Mobile. As the faculty advisor to the student Vet. Tech. Club, Beverly also helped students organize a dog wash, the proceeds of which will be donated to an animal-related charity.

As the number of service projects grows, the Program of Veterinary Technology welcomes involvement from its alumni, who have both the experience and clinical skill to guide technician students. If you would like to volunteer

in Project Running Happy Paws, in the laboratories held at PACCA or on-campus, or if you would like to volunteer your dog as a blood donor for Penn's animal blood bank, please contact the Program of Veterinary Technology. We encourage all of you to help build a culture of service at Manor College.

### THE PROGRAM GRIEVES THE LOSS OF CORNERBROOK

On Christmas Eve, our beloved teaching horse, Cornerbrook passed away. Cornerbrook first arrived at the Motherhouse Farm last winter, and soon became a welcomed and much loved member of the equine teaching team. Unlike his direct ancestor War Admiral, the famous thoroughbred who raced against Sea Biscuit, Cornerbrook possessed impeccable manners. With ease, he quickly learned how to bow. Indeed, he could bow in two different ways: one with both feet together and bending his knees, the second with one foot in front of the other, lowering his head demurely. During the short time that we had Cornerbrook, he was the source of much pride and enjoyment for us. He thrived in the spacious turn out that the Convent farm offered him.

Cornerbrook's illness was acute and surprising. It began with a head wound followed by a serious colic and then jaundice, with intermittent episodes of weakness, stupor and going down. With the dedicated care of the Horse Care Team, he pulled through the first colic on Sunday night. Unfortunately on Christmas Eve he developed a second colic, but the most alarming symptom was his level of jaundice which was strongly suggestive of liver failure. There was little reason to put him through another excruciating if not fatal colic and an underlying condition of liver failure carried a particularly poor prognosis.

Cornerbrook died peacefully. Coincidentally, the priest who lives in the white house, passed by on his way to give mass and he kindly stopped and blessed Cornerbrook with oil that he carried in a tiny flask. It is never easy to lose an animal, but it seems particularly hard to lose a horse as special as Cornerbrook. I am pleased that we were able to have had this past year to get to know him and I am proud of the excellent care that the Horse Care Team provided.

In keeping with Program tradition, a service berry tree will be planted in honor of Cornerbrook this spring.

### Cornerbrook



## Vet Tech Students Create an Honor Code, Beverly Bisaccia, CVT

This year the students have begun an admirable and influential project. The students of Manor College's Program of Veterinary Technology have formed a committee to create an Honor Code. This code will be authored exclusively by students and influence all areas of student life from academics to personal conduct. The committee had their first meeting in February and has organized their approach to this extensive task.

"I think it is wonderful that the Program of Veterinary Technology is beginning this important journey. Those of us who have met feel the Honor Code would be a guide for good moral behavior starting inside Manor's walls and then carried with us in our professional and personal environments. The hope is that it will open up communication between students. "

Honor codes are used as a means of self governance in many colleges. They are documents written by students declaring the personal, professional and academic responsibilities the students have to their peers and themselves. The goal of an honor code is to create a supportive learning environment in which diversified groups of people are able to express themselves and honor each other.

Personal integrity, interpersonal respect, and compassion are qualities which are paramount to the Veterinary Technician. The development of an Honor Code for the program is a big step forward, not only for the students of today and the students of tomorrow, but also for the profession.

We are very proud of our students for taking on this weighty task. We wish them courage and offer our support.



### Canine Blood Drive

The first Canine Blood Drive hosted by the Manor College Program of Veterinary Technology on February 4<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. We had many willing donors and a lot of fun. The Penn Animal Blood Bank will be back at Manor sometime in early May. We will always need new donors so if you have a dog between 1-6 years of age; over 55 lbs and in general good health please contact Beverly Bisaccia at (215) 885-2360 ext. 227 or [bbisaccia@manor.edu](mailto:bbisaccia@manor.edu) to schedule an appointment. Thank you for your support and commitment to animal welfare.

## 2008 PROGRAM EVENTS CALENDAR

April 15	Manor Open House
April 25	Pinning Ceremony
May 15	Graduation
June 11	IACUC Committee Meeting
June 19	Veterinary Technology Advisory Committee Meeting

## SOPHOMORE CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP DATES

### Summer:

June 2 to July 11 (first rotation)  
July 14 to August 22 (second rotation)

### Fall:

September 8 to October 17 (first rotation)  
October 20 to November 28 (second rotation)  
(Excluding Thanksgiving)

### Northeast Veterinary Technician Educators Association (NEVTEA)

The Spring meeting will be held at Harcum College on Monday, May 19, 2008. For more information, contact Dr. Joanna Bassert at 215-885-2360 Ext. 221 or at [jbassert@manor.edu](mailto:jbassert@manor.edu).

# HOOF PRINTS - VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

## TEACHING POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Program seeks veterinarians and certified veterinary technicians for part-time teaching positions in the following areas. The scheduling of lectures and laboratories is somewhat flexible. Current scheduling is listed below. Each course in the Program of Veterinary Technology is associated with a course website, containing all course materials including syllabus, course outline, assignments, class notes, power point presentations, outcomes assessment and subject-related Internet links.

### Fall 2008

The fall semester begins on Tuesday September 2, 2008 and ends on Tuesday December 16, 2008.

#### **VT110 Animal Anatomy and Physiology I**

This course offers a comparative study of the anatomy and physiology of domestic animals. Cell biology, including a discussion of basic organic molecules, anabolism, catabolism and cellular reproduction is covered. Laboratories include microscopic examination of cells and tissues, gross examination of mammalian skeletons and dissection of preserved cats. Radiographs are employed to further illustrate anatomical parts. (three hours of lecture, 2.5 hours of laboratory)

#### **VT212 Animal Radiology**

This course is an overview of the basic principles of radiology. Topics include: theory of x-ray production; parts and use of radiographic equipment; radiation control and safety; restraint and positioning of animals; radiographic quality; film development; dental radiography. The fundamentals of special imaging including ultrasonography, MRI, CT, fluoroscopy and endoscopy are also included. (one hour lecture, two laboratory hours)

#### **Radiology Laboratories**

- Lab A: Tuesday 1:30 to 3:30
- Lab B: Tuesday 3:30 to 5:30
- Lab C: Thursday 11:30 to 1:30
- Lab D: cancelled
- Lab E: Thursday 3:30 to 5:30

#### **BI206 Microbiology for Veterinary Technicians**

This is an introductory course in applied microbiology with emphasis on organisms affecting animal species. General microbiological concepts and principles are covered in lecture and laboratory. Topics include: taxonomy, biology of micro-organisms, pathogenic organisms, mycology, virology, bacteriology, immunity, zoonosis, public health, antimicrobial sensitivity testing, sterilization, disinfection, safety and the microbiology of milk. (3 hours of lecture, 3 hours of lab)

**BI206A Lecture** - Tuesday 9:00 AM to noon (lecture only is available)

Candidates for clinical positions must be licensed in the state of Pennsylvania. Resumes and inquiries may be addressed to:

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Program of Veterinary Technology  
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