

History of the Program of Veterinary Technology at Manor College

1991 and 1992

In June 1991, before leaving the College to assume a residency position at Cornell University, Dr. McManus submitted an application for accreditation that was approved by the CVTEA in the spring of 1992. Dr. Beth Udal-Weiner and Dr. Margaret McVay shared the leadership of the Program during the 1991-1992 academic year and served as hosts for the spring on-site evaluation.

In response to the Committee's recommendation for one full-time rather than two half-time directors, the College hired Dr. Robin Kerlin as full-time Director and Dr. Joanna Bassert as half-time Education Coordinator in August 1992. (Dr. Udal-Weiner and Dr. McVay pursued other career opportunities). During this time graduate and employer surveys were developed, the Advisory Committee and Vet. Tech. Club were organized, and expansion of library resources for veterinary technology was initiated. Enrollment in the fall of 1992 included 26 students.



*Dr. Joanna Bassert as Education Coordinator,
Fall 1992*



*Dr. Beth Udal-Weiner
Allied Health Night, Spring 1992*



*Joanne Kellenbenz as student
w/classmates, 1992*

1993

In May 1993, Dr. Bassert became the Program Director and Dr. Kerlin became the Education Coordinator. In an effort to increase hands-on training with animals, Dr. Bassert developed five clinical laboratories during the 1993-1994 academic year. They were Small Animal Clinical Procedures, Barn Duty, and laboratories in Surgery, Anesthesiology and Laboratory Animal Management. Animals for these laboratories came from a number of sources. Cats and dogs were provided by the Compassionate Animal Relief Effort (CARE), rabbits, rodents and their cages were donated by Smith, Kline and Beecham. A thoroughbred gelding was acquired from a private donor. Permission from four horse owners to use their animals during class at the Mother house Barn was obtained. The 1993 fall enrollment included 36 students.



*Dr Robin Kerlin, Program Director, 1992-1993
J. Bassert, Ed Coordinator
Dean Sally Mydlowec, 1st year as
Academic Dean*

That year, Dr. Bassert also organized the Continuing Education Lecture Series in Veterinary Technology and a letter writing campaign to acquire donated equipment from neighboring human hospitals. Increased efforts to recruit qualified applicants were employed by the

Admissions Office as well as efforts by the Director to promote the Program's visibility at veterinary conferences and college fairs. In December 1993, Dr. Kerlin left Manor and Joanne Kellenbenz, CAHT, an alumna of the College, was hired as Education Coordinator.



Manor's Booth at the Penn Conferences

1994

In the summer of 1994, Dr. Bassert designed and supervised renovation of the veterinary technology classroom (room 15). The room was originally a music classroom but was later given to the Program of Veterinary Technology for its exclusive use. At that time, all program lectures and laboratories including Anatomy and Physiology were taught in Room 15 which also housed the Program's equipment inventory. During the renovation process, lectures were moved to larger classrooms throughout the campus and the Anatomy and Physiology laboratories and all of its accompanying models, skeletons and preserved specimens were moved to the biology laboratory (Room 32).

A surgery suite, prep area, pharmacy and wards were installed in Room 15 for use in small animal laboratories. Barn Duty was revised and made into a new course called Large Animal Clinical Procedures (VT100) which, for the first time, made use of the Fox Chase Farm, located two miles east of campus, in addition to the Motherhouse Farm. Laboratories offering hands-on training were added to Parasitology and Radiology courses while the Clinical Procedure courses I, II and III were dropped from the curriculum. That year, Dr. Bassert also expanded the externship program to incorporate a larger number of off campus sites including a laboratory animal externship. Enrollment climbed to 49 students.





Renovation of Room 15

1995

Microbiology for Veterinary Technicians was added to the curriculum, and the Program's equipment and audio/visual inventory was expanded, particularly to supply materials to the new small and large animal laboratories. Expansion of the budget and adjunct faculty enabled the Program to meet the needs of its expanded student body. Enrollment increased to 67 students.

1996

Dr. Bassert organized the first meeting of the Pennsylvania Association of Veterinary Technician Educators (PAVTE) in an effort to increase communication between veterinary technology programs in the State and to facilitate input by educators into legislative matters in Harrisburg. Proposed amendments to the existing Practice Act concerning veterinary technology (which introduced the terms veterinary nursing, veterinary nurse and veterinary nurse specialist) was completed by the PVMA's Practice Act Task Force.

During the following summer, Dr. Bassert designed and supervised the construction of an x-ray facility and room for housing laboratory animals in the Academic building near the Small Animal Clinical Laboratory (Room 15). Also this summer, curricular revisions were made that included the addition of medical terminology, and the expansion of Clinical Pathology into two three credit courses; Hematology and Clinical Chemistry & Urinalysis. In addition, Anatomy and Physiology was moved from the sophomore to the freshman year to better serve as a foundation for subsequent courses in veterinary technology. Enrollment in the fall of 1996 climbed to 72 students

In December 1996, because of increased involvement of educators from states other than Pennsylvania, the membership of the Pennsylvania Association of Veterinary Technician Educators voted to change its name to the Northeast Veterinary Technician Educators Association (NEVTEA).



Building the radiology suite

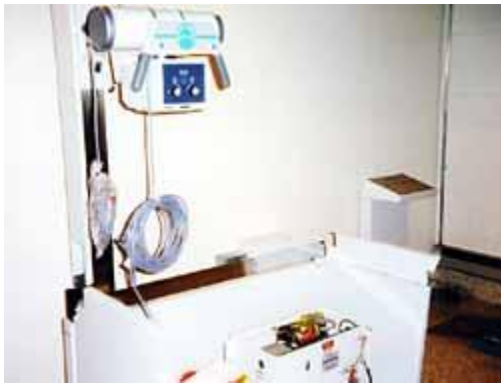


In the Spring of 1997 an on-site evaluation team visited Manor and the CVTEA subsequently awarded full-accreditation to the Program. Manor's Annual Springtime Gala was dedicated to the development of funds for acquisition of a x-ray unit and Dr. Patricia McManus was honored for her role in bringing initial AVMA accreditation to the Program. A few months later, on June 2, 1997, NEVTEA was incorporated by Dr. Bassert.

In the summer of 1997, a Universal high-frequency x-ray unit was purchased and installed in the newly constructed radiology suite. Also at this time, Dr. Bassert, in collaboration with Ray Schwegler, Instructional Technologies Manager and Frank DiMarchi, Development Office received a \$25,000 matching grant from Bell Atlantic to develop on-line courses in veterinary technology. This grant was matched by the College. In addition, the Program adopted a Shetland gelding for use in Large Animal Clinical Procedures and Dr. Bassert recruited the participation of fostered animals from Spay n'Save and other rescue organizations (in addition to CARE) to better meet the increased demand for animals in Small Animal Clinical Procedures and in Surgery & Anesthesiology Laboratories. By the fall of 1997, enrollment included 80 students.



Frosty gets adopted



Installation of the X-ray machine

1998

In the winter of 1998, Ray Schwegler began the design and construction of a multimedia classroom using funds from the Bell Atlantic grant. The classroom included 16 Pentium table top computers, one 48 inch Monitor, two digital video cameras, one digital document camera with tray, one digital portable camera and a computerized white board. Around this time, the College acquired a T-1 line and obtained Internet access via Earth Station

In the Spring, Joanne Kellenbenz stepped down as Education Coordinator, but continued to teach Large Animal Clinical Procedures in the fall as an adjunct faculty member. Introduction to Veterinary Technology and Veterinary Practice Management were combined to form one two-credit course and Surgery was expanded from two to three credits. At the same time, Clinical Chemistry was obligatorily decreased by one credit to accommodate the expansion of Surgery (the College does not permit Programs to exceed 85 credits). Ann McClenaghan and Dr. Bassert developed VT103 Introduction to Veterinary Technology and Practice Management, as a traditional and Internet-based distance education course. Five Marino and Jacob ewes and five lambs arrived at the Motherhouse Farm in May and were pastured in the upper field.

In the summer, Dr. Bassert and Donna White, of CD Communications, developed a course web site for VT103 that held all of the course materials and reference sources. At the same time, Ray Schwegler completed construction of the veterinary technology multimedia classroom. Renovations to the barn were made during the summer and included removal of the milking

parlor and construction of eight new horse stalls. Ann McClenaghan became Education Coordinator in August. An additional grant of \$53,000., this time provided by the State of Pennsylvania, was awarded to Dr. Bassert for continued development of distance education in Veterinary Technology.

Enrollment in the fall of 1998 reached 97 students making Veterinary Technology the largest program at Manor College. Introduction to Veterinary Technology and Practice Management was team-taught by Ann McClenaghan and Dr. Bassert in the fall and represents Manor's first Internet-based course. At this time, synchronous audio and video streaming using Net Show software was used to deliver lecture material in VT103 on-line. A Veterinary Technology Program web site was developed by Dr. Bassert and Donna White and was linked to the College and VT103 course web sites. This is Manor's first Program web page.

In the summer of 1998, Dr. Dronson developed an inventory of chemical hazards for Vet Tech laboratories and began collection of MSDS sheets. OSHA training materials were purchased and a VT faculty training program was initiated.



The original Veterinary Technology multimedia classroom



Horse stalls constructed, summer 1998



Sheep arrive, summer 1998

1999

The College officially changed its name from Manor Junior College to Manor College. In the spring, the College hosted the biannual meeting of the Northeast Veterinary Technician Educators Association (NEVTEA), which showcased the video/audio streaming technology. Ann McClenaghan developed Animal Management and Nutrition (VT106) as a distance education course. Dr. Bassert received grant funding from Hill's Pet Nutrition to develop a CD-ROM of images for veterinary technician educators. "Serena" a mixed breed (female spayed) from the SPCA became the Program's mascot. Enrollment in the fall reaches 104.

Throughout the 1998-1999 academic year, a three phase plan to computerize the library collection of books, periodicals and AV supplies was underway. Books were bar-coded and logged. A computer lab was established in the library for students to complete research and autotutorials. For the first time, on-campus students took VT103 asynchronously using the new computers in the library.

Also in the summer of 1999, Dr. Bassert developed a faculty handbook to facilitate hiring, orientation and instructional support. Much effort, that summer, was devoted toward obtaining an amendment of the PVMA's House Bill #1418. Ann McClenaghan began development of Manor's second on-line course, VT 106, Animal Management and Nutrition.

2000

In addition to the Program Director and the Education Coordinator, Dr. Christina Dougherty, adjunct faculty member, and Jane Zegestowsky, Chairman of the Allied Health Division, became advisors to veterinary technology students for the first time. A grant of \$100,000 is awarded to the Program by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture for continued development of distance education in veterinary technology. A thoroughbred mare, "Belle", is acquired for the program. Enrollment in the fall is 110 students.

In the Spring 2000, Ann McClenaghan taught VT106 as an on-line course for the first time. In addition, a formal relationship with the Montgomery SPCA was established by Dr. Bassert to provide adequate numbers of cats and dogs for use in VT 218/226, Surgery and Anesthesiology Laboratories. These animals were spayed and neutered and given routine medical treatment before being returned to the SPCA. Also this year, efforts to reduce the number of preserved cats used in the anatomy and physiology laboratories were initiated. Several Prosections were permanently preserved via the silicolypophilization process developed by Dr. Peter Ocello at Michigan State University.

In the summer of 2000, the College participated in a study initiated by the USDA, which monitored the movement of the West Nile Virus. Chickens were placed as sentinel birds at the farm and were tested weekly for the presence of the virus. The Program horses were also tested weekly as part of the study. Dr. Bassert received an additional \$100,000 from the State of Pennsylvania to continue work on distance education. One hundred and ten (110) students enrolled in September, 2000.

2001

In May, Manor hosted the spring meeting of the Northeast Veterinary Technician Educators Association (NEVTEA). The College's Board of Trustees approved the creation of a second full-time professor position in Veterinary Technology. Dr. Sara Busch came on-board in this new position. Ann McClenaghan, CVT stepped down as the Education Coordinator, but stayed on as adjunct instructor of Animal Management and Nutrition. Elizabeth Brass, CVT became the new Education Coordinator. The Education Coordinator position was expanded from half-time to ¾-time.

During the summer, the multimedia classroom was refurbished and a new studio/office was constructed for filming and editing on-line courses. Dr. Francine Mallon became half-time subject matter expert and course developer of four on-line courses.

Dr. Bassert, together with Donna White of CD-Communications, completed the CD-ROM *Images for Veterinary Technician Educators*, which was distributed at the AVTE Symposium in Vancouver, BC. The books *Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians* (McCurnin and Bassert) and *Clinical Anatomy and Physiology* (Colville and Bassert) were published and released in July. Enrollment in the fall was **114** students.

2002

Liz Brass, CVT and Dr. Joanna Bassert joined a team of veterinary personnel to assist the Navajo Nation at Crown Point, New Mexico. The effort was supported by Americans for Native Americans and by Federal Funding. Equine and small animal clinics were established providing preventive medicine, acupuncture and spay/neuter procedures. In addition to working in small animal surgery, Dr. Bassert also worked with Dr. Cliff Balok, Director of Veterinary Technology at the Crown Point Institute of Technology, to assist with the application for AVMA-accreditation.

The Program of Veterinary Technology at Manor College received its 10-year on-site evaluation. Full accreditation was reinstated.

The Program received \$100,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture for continued development of course websites in veterinary technology. Enrollment in the Fall 2002 included 112 students.

2003

The Program received \$100,000 from the US Department of Education for continued development of course websites in veterinary technology. This is the first federal grant received by the Program.

Renovations to the storage areas in the barn were completed including the installation of heating units, a washer and dryer, a new hot water heater, improved lighting and new wall shelving. Anatomy and Physiology courses I and II were offered for the first time. Filming of clinical techniques in VT226/218 surgery and anesthesiology was completed.

In the spring, Liz Brass and one student (Ashley Schmidtheiser) returned to New Mexico to work at the Crown Point Institute of Technology's preventive veterinary medicine clinic. Enrollment included 104 students

2004

New lighting was installed in the aisles of the barn. The classroom was renovated with a tile floor, new window, insulated door, baseboard heating, white board and a new ceiling.

The videos for laboratories in VT105 Large Animal Clinical Procedures have begun. In addition, the writing for distance lab materials in parasitology, clinical chemistry, hematology and micro biology is underway.

In the summer, Liz Brass stepped down as Education Coordinator and Brandy Terry became the new Education Coordinator for the Program. On Founders Day, Brandy was presented with the Manor College Student Award for excellence in teaching; an unprecedented achievement for a first-time teacher.

During winter break, the Anatomy Laboratory (Room 32) was gutted and renovated. New cabinets, student work tables, window blinds, and white boards were installed. In addition, a

ceiling mounted LCD projector and a smart board were installed.

Enrollment included 112 students.



2005

Dr. Elaine Hammel and Brandy Terry went to the American Southwest, taking 5 students (Larae Cunningham, Meghan Ruddell, Amanda Hedman, Alicia Carr and Kelly Dominski) with them to work at preventive medicine clinics in Crown Point, NM and in Sells, Arizona. During their time working on the reservations, the students and faculty befriended a yellow lab mix with perpetually muddy feet named “Running Dirty Paws” and it was suggested (by Brandy) that the

ANA Project be named after this endearing dog. Thus, Manor's role in this important work has come to be known as "Project Running Dirty Paws".

The video modules for the Large Animal Clinical Procedures course were completed by Dr. Elaine Hammel and Dr. Barbara Forney. Filming and editing was done by Tom Gillern.

Dr. Bassert organized and hosted the spring NEVTEA meeting, which was held at the Spirituality Center in May. Nancy Shaffran spoke about pain management in the morning, and in the afternoon, participants rotated through several workshops that discussed a variety of techniques used to treat pain in animals. Workshop presenters included: Brandy Terry, Vickie Byard, Wendy Curtis-Uhle, and Nancy Shaffran.

In July, the sixth edition of the *Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians*, McCurnin and Bassert, was released. It represents the first textbook in veterinary technology to be published in full color. In addition, Dr. Sara Busch anticipates release of her surgical assisting text in October

2006

On January 1, Dr. Joan Hendricks becomes the first woman to be Dean of the University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine.

In February, Program faculty (Dr. Bassert, Dr. Busch and Brandy Terry) together with the Director of Development, Marialice Stanzeski, toured the expansive facility of the Philadelphia Animal Care and Control Association (PACCA). Discussions with Executive Director, Tara Derby, focused on collaborations such as holding some labs at PACCA, the development of new curricula in shelter management, student volunteering, and assistance with spay and neuter surgeries at Manor's surgical facility.

In March, the first Program newsletter was released via mail and e-mail to all alumni, students and faculty. This represented the first program-specific newsletter to be developed by the College. This first issue was called Fox Prints (it was later called Hoof Prints). In addition, during this month, the Curriculum Committee approved expansion of the radiology laboratories from 1.5 hours to 2 hours per week.

In April, the Program changed the name of "Project Running Dirty Paws" to "Project Running Happy Paws." Under the auspices of ANA, Dr. Francie Rubin (Manor faculty member 1994), lead a group of students to the Hopi reservation. The students included Nicole Hare, Melissa Peel and Leslie Sheppard. The students assisted with equine and bovine preventive medicine in addition to companion animal spays and neuters.

In May, after a long battle with laminitis, which included a hoof wall ablation, a deep digital tenotomy and 10 months of stall rest, Donovan was able to be turned out for the first time. Also this month, Dr. Bassert standardized course outcomes, standard criteria and laboratory task check lists. These were put on each course website under the heading "Assessment." The second Program Newsletter was released and was sent to all students, friends of the program and alumni.

In the spring, Dr. Bassert began her service on the Steering Committee for College-accreditation by Middle-States. She wrote narratives for standards one and six during the summer, began work on the second edition of the anatomy textbook and wrote the biennial report to CVTEA. Dr. Leon Menapace taught VT111 during the summer (for the first time) and recorded audio for the VT111 online lecture. Also during the summer, the microscopy lab (Room 17) was gutted and renovated using funding from the Connelly Foundation.

In the fall, an IDEXX hematology unit was purchased and two IDEXX chemistry analyzers were donated to the Program. Students enjoyed using this equipment in the newly renovated laboratory. Students Susan Donnelly, Doris Wood and Debra Cirlincione participated in Project Running Happy Paws and worked with both Zuni and Hopi Native Americans and their animals. Brandy Terry successfully completed the examination administered by the Academy of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care and was subsequently awarded a veterinary technician specialist certificate by NAVTA.

In December, Dr. Sara Busch left Manor to become State Veterinarian for the State of Delaware. A new full-time position, Program Coordinator, was formed to include both teaching and administrative duties.



2007

In December, Dr. Sara Busch left Manor to become State Veterinarian for the State of Delaware. A new full-time position, Program Coordinator, was formed to include both teaching and administrative duties. Dr. Kathianne Komurek was hired in January to fill this position. Brandy Terry acquired her specialty certificate in emergency and critical care.

During the spring semester, two issues of the alumni newsletter were released and distributed. The Program was saddened to lose three friends as Frosty, Donovan and LeRoy died of old-age related problems. A memorial service was held in their honor in conjunction with the end of the year picnic. Three Service Berry trees were planted in their honor, one for each horse. Sara Dusavage (Team Captain), Jennifer Harrison, Kirsten Stajkowski and Allison Wagner were honored in the Pinning Ceremony for their outstanding care of the geriatric horses.

Students Kirsten Stajkowski, Erin Mayer and Sara Dusavage participated in Project Running Happy Paws which was based on a Hopi reservation in Arizona.

In June, the Vet Tech Program moved its office from the Library building to the second floor of the Academic Building. Dr. Komurek began review and refinement of the program's standard criteria. Program and course outcomes continued to be written and posted on line. Brandy Terry

stepped down as Education Coordinator to become the director of an Intensive Care Unit at the Veterinary Referral Center in Frasier, PA. Beverly Bisaccia, CVT, a manor alumna, was hired as the new Education Coordinator. In July, Dr. Bassert, Brandy, Beverly and Dr. Komurek attended the AVTE symposium in Waco, Texas.

The Allied Health Division hired a new full-time biology and anatomy instructor. Jane Zegestowsky was promoted to Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs.

2008

In January, the Program held its first all-program meeting for students and faculty. Discussions focused on the idea of students writing their own honor-code. The Program-community decided to form a student-run committee to investigate honor codes used by other colleges and to formulate some ideas about how a Vet Tech honor code might be implemented. Students Jackie Wivel and Allan Rubin headed up this committee.

In February, Beverly Bisaccia organized the first canine blood donation at Manor College; the focal point was a visit from Penn's Blood Mobile. Several students and school community members volunteered their dogs, which were screened for suitability as donors.

In April, on behalf of the College, Dr. Bassert arranged a license agreement with Animal Care Technologies (ACT) for use of the Large Animal Clinical Procedures videos that were developed using grant funding. Derivative works will be produced by ACT and distributed via on-line subscriptions and DVD. A laboratory manual (first edition) to accompany the *Clinical Anatomy and Physiology for Veterinary Technicians* textbook was released.

In May and June, Dr. Bassert supervised renovations of the Lab Animal Vivarium (Room 18) and the Small Animal Clinical lab (Room 15); both facilities were painted, new ceilings installed, and new cabinets and counter tops were installed. In addition, a room to house rabbits was constructed adjacent to the existing rodent room from a pre-existing closet.

During the summer, Dr. Komurek completed work on standard criteria and compiled the student handbook. In addition, Dr. Komurek and Dr. Bassert completed the comprehensive self-study report for re-accreditation, and compiled course syllabi.

The fall Project Running Happy Paws trip was organized by Beverly Bisaccia. There were two teams of students who participated. Team one included: Jackie May, Jackie Wivel, and Megan Beach. Team two included: Katelyn Mursch and Lisa Thomas. On October 22, 23 and 24, the Program was evaluated by CVTEA's on-site review team.

The Program received an excellent review by CVTEA. In the final meeting, many accolades were given, no critical recommendation and only one major recommendation. Full accreditation was continued.



2009

The spring semester began with implementation of the new CAMS college software on January 26th. Paul van Rijn directed many faculty training sessions during the winter. Also in January, Dr. Robert Orsher of VSEC, together with several members of his staff, met with Dr. Bassert on campus to propose expansion of the Manor externship program at VSEC and collaboration in the establishment of a VSEC-Manor Continuing Education Lecture Series.

Dr. Bassert coordinated the formation of a new all-day laboratory held at the New Bolton Center to complement labs offered as part of VT105 in large animal clinical techniques. Barb Dugan, CVT and Dr. Natasha Kassel lead the equine laboratory at the Widener Center, while Dr. Darren

Remsberg and Dr. Joanna Bassert offered instruction in dairy herd health at the Marshak Dairy. The morning groups switched in the afternoon so that each student spent half the day working with horses and the other half with dairy cows. Based on student and faculty feedback, the lab was very successful and will be continued in the fall.

PAACA loses its contract with the city of Philadelphia and closes. Dr. Komurek establishes a new relationship with PAWS and cats and dogs continue to be brought to Manor College for spay and neuter procedures as part of the VT226/VT218 laboratory. In March, Dr. Rubin of the USDA, inspects the College's animal facilities and finds no deficiencies. Penn's blood mobile continues to visit Manor College and collect blood donations from student, faculty and staff dogs. The College curriculum committee approves changes to the Vet Tech curriculum that includes the following

1. VT211 Animal Medicine is separated into two courses VT 227 Animal Medicine I and VT 228 Animal Medicine II
2. VT204 Small Animal Dentistry is established as a new spring course.
3. BI206 Microbiology for Veterinary Technicians is decreased to 3 credits from 4
4. VT109 Breeds, Behavior and Nutrition is split into two new courses: VT112 Breeds and Behavior and VT113 Animal Nutrition
5. VT210 Freshman Clinical Externship is deleted from the curriculum.

The 8th Edition of *McCurnin's Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians* is released in March with Dr. Bassert as lead editor. She honors Dr. McCurnin's service to the professions of veterinary technology and veterinary medicine as he will retire as editor after this year. Also during the spring, Dr. Komurek establishes the first Facebook account for the College (specifically for Vet Tech alumni). Beverly Bisaccia is close on her heels by establishing a page for Vet Tech students. Beloved teaching horse Redds passes away on May 2 when he is 34 years old. Dr. Komurek develops a comprehensive faculty instruction manual with regard to establishing course goals and learning assessment tools.

During the summer, Dr. Komurek and Dr. Bassert meet individually with faculty to establish learning assessment strategies in each of the VT courses. Beverly Bisaccia, Dr. Komurek and Dr. Bassert attend the AVTE Symposium in Omaha, Nebraska. Dr. Bassert is re-elected to serve a second consecutive term (forth term in total) on the AVTE Executive Board.



2010 - 2011

In January, the Sister's of St. Basil return to the original mission of the Spirituality Center and restricted its use to only religious and spiritual-related functions. The Manor-VSEC lecture series is moved to Rooms 13 and 14 Seminar Rooms in the Library.

The Program's Honor Code is amended by the Honor Counsel and ratified in the spring during Plenary. Beverly Bisaccia oversees the SCNAVTA spring dog wash, which was extremely well attended by members of the community and resounding financial success.

In April, the Program mourns the unexpected loss of Peter, a thoroughbred gelding, who was rescued by the Program. The memorial service was organized by Beverly Bisaccia and included the Program's traditional planting of a Service Berry tree.

Assistant Dean, Jane Zegestowsky, and Dr. Bassert meet with Patricia DiAngelis, new Hospital Director of the Matthew Ryan Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Michael Moyer speaks to the Advisory Committee about Penn's Shelter Medicine Program. Melissa Levy, executive Director of PAWS

Dr. Bassert meets with Dennis McCurnin and John Thomas at Elsevier headquarters in St. Louis to celebrate Dennis' 24 years as editor of the Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians. In light of Dr. McCurnin's retirement from the text, Dr. Bassert invites Dr. Thomas from Ohio to co-edit the 8th edition with her. Organizational meetings with Teri Merchant and other Elsevier staff followed.

Students:

Enrollment:

The fall began with a warm welcome to 32 new incoming full-time and 7 part-time freshmen. Total enrollment for the fall semester, including returning students was 113 students. Three new full-time and one new part-time students began in January bringing the total of new incoming students to 43.

New Incoming Freshmen Enrollment

Fall 2010: FT: 32 PT: 7

Spring 2011: FT: 3 PT: 1

Total: 43

New Student Orientation:

For the first time, the Program offered a half day New Student Orientation for incoming freshmen. The orientation included a thorough review of the Program's Student Handbook and some creative dramatization of the Program rules pertaining to class attendance, uniform and professionalism. Several sophomore students helped chaperone small groups of freshmen through a campus-wide treasure hunt with faculty strategically stationed in laboratories and offices to help answer quest queries. The orientation was well received and several of the sophomores commented that they wished that they had had that kind of an orientation when they

were a freshman. Faculty and sophomores wore “Vet Tech Orientation Staff” t-shirts to help them be identified by new students.

After the student orientation, the Program held a barbeque on the front lawn for all students (freshmen and sophomores), their parents and VT faculty and staff. This was a big success, was well attended and proved to be an excellent way to start the academic year. This fall, we plan to have another orientation picnic and use it to introduce a new sophomore-freshman mentoring system for the first time. After the picnic, parents moved to the library for new parent’s orientation.

Study Skills Workshop:

On Saturday, September 11, the first Saturday in the semester, the Program offered a Study Skills Workshop specifically for VT students for the first time. During the workshop students were tested for their learning style preferences. They were introduced to the anatomy of a college syllabus and walked through time management skills and study strategies.

This too proved to be successful and we will repeat the workshop again this fall.

Advising

As in previous years, the freshmen are advised by Dr. Bassert and Beverly Bisaccia, who teach freshmen, and the sophomores are advised by Dr. Komurek and Beverly Bisaccia, who teach sophomores. Though it means that most students change advisor after the freshman year, it is more expedites communication between student and advisor because contact can easily occur before and after class.

Student Activities and Program Outreach:

An active group of freshmen and sophomores participated in the Student Chapter of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (SCNAVTA), which is informally known as the “Vet Tech Club” on campus. Vet Tech students participated in a variety of activities including a dog wash in which they raised money that was subsequently donated to the College to support the purchase of digital x-ray equipment. Students also signed up for “Shelter Volunteer Days,” which involved working at regional Philadelphia shelters.

Marketing for the Program involved alumni managed booths at the Penn Annual Conferences, Pawsibilities (pet fair) in Harrisburg at the convention center and Fox Chase Farm’s “Farm to Table Day.” Alumni will also be speaking to children at summer camps this summer.

Students and alumni each have their own VT Program-Facebook pages.

Honor Code and Plenary

The Vet Tech student body and faculty gathered on April 6 for Plenary. This is an important all-Program meeting in which the Program’s honor code is discussed, debated and ratified. It is an opportunity for students to talk about what is and what is not working in their experience as students. Interestingly, dissatisfaction is often associated with the behavior and interactions of students in and out of class. Some excellent direct, mature discussions occurred during plenary. A pizza lunch followed approval of the revised code.

VT faculty felt that the meeting was so productive, we have decided to hold two all-Program meetings next year: Plenary mid-year and another feedback session in the spring.

Faculty :

As with all academic years, there were new additions to the faculty, and faculty who did not return.

New Faculty: Joshua Roesener, Ann Caufield, Lorelei Lankin and Tana Hawes.

Returning after an absence: Elise Bobrin

Did not return to VT: William Salvatore, Tom Viola, Sara Dusavage, Joanne O'Brien, and Rene Miller

Conferences:

Full-time faculty attended the Penn Annual Conferences in March and the Northeast Veterinary Technician Educators Association (NEVTEA) meeting in June, which was held at the SUNY campus in Delhi, New York. Dr. Jodi Rockett spoke about the technician nursing model and the importance of teaching critical thinking skills to veterinary technician students. Bev, Dr.

Komurek and Dr. Bassert will attend the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators (AVTE) symposium in July, which is in Cincinnati, Ohio this year. Dr. Bassert is a member of the AVTE Exec. Board and chairs the Awards Committee. Two new (corporate sponsored) awards will be presented this year for the first time: New Educator Award and Team Teaching Award.

Staff:

Last September, Charmaine Hofmann became the Program's first Program Assistant. This is a new position and is much appreciated. Charmaine will work in the VT Office from 10am to 3pm Monday through Thursday each week. We are extremely grateful for her assistance!

We had one of the largest and most successful Horse Care Teams since the Program began its large animal program. Mariann Holst and Stephanie Ayala served as student captains. Members of the team came from other Manor programs as well as from the Vet Tech Program. It is important to note that horse lovers from all programs have an interest in participating on the team and are welcome.

Academics/ Curriculum

This year, the students completed the first full round of the new curriculum that was developed largely by Dr. Komurek two years ago. Students appreciated the expansion of medicine and the separation of anesthesia from pharmacology. The new curriculum also includes greater coordination between classes so that learning is maximized. Snow storms and school closings negatively impacted the articulations between some classes. It was a difficult winter in this respect.

Recently, the Program was visited by representatives from the Delaware County College Technical High School (DCCTHS), located near West Chester. A preliminary articulation agreement was proposed to the curriculum committee for review, which would allow certain DCCTHS students to receive credit for VT102 Laboratory Animal Science (2 credits).

Medicine ran for the first time as a split course Med I in fall and Med II in spring and was met with appreciation by the students and faculty.

There were many guest speakers this year in a variety of classes including: Dr. Mark Cofone (orthopedics), Dr. Elaine Hammel (equine), Paula Clifford, CVT (lab animal), Dr. Christopher Montgomery (exotics) and Brandy Terry, CVT, VTS (emergency and critical care), Christopher Delgado, CVT (Nutrition), Dr. Leonore Southam (equine), Beth Landers (librarian).

Field Trips continued to be an important part of the curriculum and included visits to the following facilities: Rau Animal Hospital, Matthew J. Ryan Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Mid-Atlantic Equine Hospital, PAWS and PACCA Shelters in Philadelphia,

Accreditation:

The Program continues to be fully accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association's Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (AVMA-CVTEA)

Alumni

Lead by Beverly Bisaccia, Vet Tech Program alumni formed an association and developed its own Facebook page. This is the first Program alumni association at Manor College. Several particularly energetic alums formed a committee and organized the first Vet Tech reunion, which was held at the Flowertown Country Club in January. It included a sit down dinner, dancing and cocktails. A great time was had by all and we hope to have one festive reunion every two to three years. This year, alumni were also very involved in outreach and participated in staffing the booth at the Penn Conferences and at the Fox Chase Farm festival.

Facilities:

As of this writing, the last of the furniture was moved into the newly renovated VT office today. The renovation enables the Program Assistant to have a suitable desk and for the work study students and adjunct faculty to have a place to work. It is a huge improvement.

Equipment purchases and goals:

New equipment purchased this year include: four portable dental scalers with independent water reservoirs and a new capnometer with alarms (monitors end-tidal CO₂).

The principle goal for equipment purchases is the acquisition of new digital x-ray equipment.

Development:

The Program worked hard this year to support the development office in fundraising for the x-ray equipment. Students participated in a phonathon in the fall and worked to raise funds via the Vet Tech Club to contribute to the effort. So far, approximately \$14,000 has been raised. Dr. Robert Orsher championed the cause and sent out letters of appeal to regional veterinary practices and followed up with phone calls. Sound Elkin sales reps together with Dr. Orsher helped to secure the donation of a CR x-ray system from the Mt Laurel Veterinary Hospital to the College.

Advisory Committee:

The Advisory Committee meets annually (biannually during an accreditation on-site review year) and is composed of veterinarians and veterinary technicians representing all disciplines of the profession. We are fortunate to have a strong and dynamic group, many of whom are alumnae of the Program. The Advisory Committee meeting this year focused on creating physically and emotionally healthy learning environments for students. Guest speakers included: Allison Gottleib, Jessica Kerr and Sarah Del Ricci. It was very well attended and gave rise to robust discussion, from which came many excellent suggestions and ideas.

2011-2012

Students:

Enrollment:

The fall began with a warm welcome to 38 new incoming full-time and 8 part-time freshmen. Total enrollment for the fall semester, including returning students was 111 students. Two new part-time students began in January bringing the total of new incoming students to 48.

New Incoming Freshmen Enrollment

Fall 2011: FT: 38 PT: 8

Spring 2012: PT: 2

Total: 48

New Student Orientation and Study Skills Workshop:

New student orientation and the study skills workshop were offered again in the fall for the second time. Sophomores were particularly enthusiastic about participating in these events and of getting to know new freshmen. The implementation of these events has smoothed student transition into the Program and college-level course work.

Advising

As in previous years, the freshmen are advised by Dr. Bassert and Beverly Bisaccia, who teach freshmen, and the sophomores are advised by Dr. Komurek and Beverly Bisaccia, who teach sophomores. Though this approach means that most students change advisor after the freshman year, it expedites communication between student and advisor because contact can easily occur before and after class.

Student and Alumni Outreach:

Each year, a group of freshmen and sophomores participate in the Student Chapter of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (SCNAVTA), which is informally known as the “Vet Tech Club” on campus. This year, Vet Tech students participated in a dog wash and in “Shelter Volunteer Days,” which involved working at regional Philadelphia shelters.

Marketing for the Program included an alumni-manned booth at the Penn Annual Conferences.

In addition, students and alumni each have their own VT Program-Facebook pages.

Outreach to Shelter Animals:

Under the direction of Dr. Kathianne Komurek, the small animal clinical laboratory has been busy this year attending to shelter animals. Students in VT217 Small Animal Clinical Procedures laboratories provided physical examinations and preventive health to 52 dogs and cats during the fall 2011. In addition, there were 60-70 dogs heartworm tested at the shelter by Manor students.

During the spring 2011 semester, the students in VT226 Animal Surgical Assisting laboratories provided the anesthesia and surgical support for the spaying and neutering of 64 cats. There were 27 students enrolled in VT226 who were divided into 5 lab sections.

As of April 1, Manor will work exclusively with the Animal Care and Control Team of Philadelphia (ACCT) and will no longer work directly with PAWS. This change expedites handling of animals spayed and neutered at Manor College.

Honor Code and Plenary

The Vet Tech student body and faculty gathered on April 4 for Plenary and pizza this year. The Honor Code was ratified with a few ammendments.

Faculty :

As with all academic years, there were new additions to the faculty, and faculty who did not return.

New Faculty: Lisa Berkenstock (Behavior), Dr. Amy Poulin (Surgery Lecture)

Returning after an absence: Dr. Christopher Reetz

Dismissal: None

Did not return to VT: Joanne O'Brien

Conferences:

Full-time faculty attended the Penn Annual Conferences in March and the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators (AVTE) symposium in July, which was in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Staff:

Last summer, Dr. Bassert recruited and interviewed many applicants before settling on Charmaine Hofmann as the new Program Assistant. Charmaine is the first person to hold this new position and works from 10am to 3pm Monday through Thursday each week. We are extremely grateful for her assistance!

We had one of the largest and most successful Horse Care Teams again this year. Tanya Sorensen was the managing captain (fall and spring) and Lindsey Tuscano was the ordering captain (spring only). In addition, there were a few members of the team who came from other Manor programs as well as from the Vet Tech Program; most notable is Paul Williams, President of the Student Senate.

Academics/ Curriculum

Initiatives:

Under the leadership of Dr. Kathianne Komurek and Dr. Joanna Bassert, three primary initiatives were undertaken this year and significant progress was made in each of them:

1. Improve student understanding and use of information technology, particularly in sophomore classes. This was achieved by increasing

involvement of the College Librarian in classes, by increasing oversight of existing research assignments and by making available a wider variety of Internet sources on Webstudy course sites. The New Student Orientation will also include a detailed tour of the Library by Beth Landers.

2. Expand opportunities for teaching critical thinking and integrate the veterinary technician practice model concept into the VT curriculum starting with VT103 and VT110 in the freshman year and continuing through multiple classes in the sophomore year. Dr. Jody Rockett's books were given to all adjunct faculty and discussed with them. VT Faculty members were encouraged to integrate clinical cases and critical thinking questions into the homework and classwork assignments in all VT courses.

3. Improve clinical math skills and better prepare students for externships by adding constant rate infusion calculations to MH102, VT218 and VT227. Erin Maser, a Manor VT graduate, took hundreds of photos of medication bottles, filled syringes, infusion sets and other medical supplies to better illustrate the clinical application of technical math in the veterinary practice. These photos will be integrated into class Power Point presentations and the VT105 math workbook used in Tech Math and prepared by Jane Zegestowsky. Rachel Keyser CVT, VTS ECC, a Manor graduate, made guest lectures in MH102 to teach students how to calculate constant rate infusions and how to address clinical word problems.

New Elective Course:

Beverly Bisaccia developed a new one-credit on-line veterinary medical terminology course, which was approved by the curriculum committee and will be offered for the first time this fall, 2012.

Guest Speakers:

There were many guest speakers this year in a variety of classes including: Dr. Mark Cofone (orthopedics), Dr. Elaine Hammel (equine), Brandy Terry, CVT, VTS (emergency and critical care), Christopher Delgado, CVT (Nutrition), and Beth Landers (librarian).

Field Trips:

Field Trips continued to be an important part of the curriculum and included visits to the following facilities: The New Bolton Center and Mathew Ryan Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, University Laboratory Animal Research (ULAR) at the University of Pennsylvania, and PACCA Shelters in Philadelphia.

Accreditation: The Program continues to be fully accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association's Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (AVMA-CVTEA)

Alumni

Under the leadership of alumna Beverly Bisaccia, Vet Tech Alumni continued to be engaged in the Program. Alumni set up and manned the Program's booth at the Penn Annual Conferences this year, which was held in Center City Philadelphia. Student and alumni Facebook pages merged this year as there was a good deal of redundancy between them. Membership on this Facebook page continues to expand. Alumni returned to Manor in greater numbers than ever before to serve in various support roles such as: lab assistants in both the small and large animal clinical procedures laboratories, tutors in anatomy and physiology, guest speakers and photographer.

Facilities:

The newly renovated VT Office was well appreciated by students and faculty. It proved to be more functional and offer a better venue for addressing student and adjunct faculty needs. The application for a state grant to improve water drainage at the St. Basil's Farm, which was written and submitted by David Darnesto, was approved. The township will implement the grant by making contour changes to

the pasture, constructing retention basins and installing new fencing The VT Program will volunteered 100 hours of student work towards the project.

Equipment purchases and goals:

1. A used indirect CR-digital x-ray system was donated to the college, refurbished, cleaned and installed. Its use during the fall 2011 semester was an excellent addition to the VT212 Animal Radiology laboratories. Efforts to raise money for the purchase of digital direct radiologic system continue.
2. Additional Equipment purchased this year include:
 - a. 1 laryngoscope
 - b. 3 refractometers
 - c. 3 wheel barrows for the barn
 - d. Several manure forks
 - e. 6 blood pressure cuffs for the bionet unit
 - f. 2 glucometers

Development:

Fund-raising for a direct digital x-ray system continues. As of this spring 2012, approximately \$34,222 has been raised for purchase of the equipment. Another appeal has recently been sent out.

Advisory Committee:

The Advisory Committee meets annually (biannually during an accreditation on-site review year) and is composed of veterinarians and veterinary technicians representing all disciplines of the profession. We are fortunate to have a strong and dynamic group, many of whom are alumnae of the Program. The Advisory Committee meeting this year has been deferred to October 2012 when Dr. Jody Rockett from Idaho will speak to the committee about the new veterinary technician practice model and the importance of teaching critical thinking.

History of the Program of Veterinary Technology

2012-2013 Academic Year

Students:

Enrollment:

The fall began with a warm welcome to 36 new incoming freshmen. Total enrollment for the fall semester, including returning students was 104 students. One new transfer student and 4 reinstated students came in January 2013 bringing the total freshmen to 41.

Incoming Freshmen Enrollment:

Fall 2012: 28 FT: 8 PT:

Spring 2013: 0 FT: 5 PT (1 new, 4 reinstated):

Total: 41 freshmen

Total Program Enrollment (Fall 2012) = 104 students

Total Program Enrollment (Spring 2013) = 84 students

New Student Orientation and Study Skills Workshop:

Tricia Luddecke organized another successful New Student Orientation for the VT Program in the Fall 2012 and offered a Study Skills Workshop on Saturday, September 8, 2012.

Advising

As in previous years, the freshmen are advised by Dr. Bassert and Beverly Bisaccia. The sophomores are advised by Dr. Komurek and Beverly Bisaccia. Though it means that most students change advisor after the freshman year, this system expedites communication between students and their advisor because contact is facilitated by the fact that their advisor is also their instructor.

Student Activities and Program Outreach:

An active group of freshmen and sophomores participated in the Student Chapter of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (SCNAVTA), which is informally known as the "Vet Tech Club" on campus. Vet Tech students participated in a variety of activities including a dog wash in which they raised money that was subsequently donated to the College to support the purchase of the 2013-class gift. Students also signed up for "Shelter Volunteer Days," which involved working at regional Philadelphia shelters.

Marketing for the Program involved alumni managed booths at the Penn Annual Conferences, the Mut Strutt benefit for Philly Paws in FDR Park and Fox Chase Farm's "Farm to Table Day."

Students did not participate in Project Running Happy Paws this spring due to reductions in funding and limitations in scheduling.

Honor Council, Honor Code and Plenary

The Vet Tech student body and faculty gathered on April 17 for Plenary and ratified the Program's Honor Code with relatively little discussion. The Honor Counsel's recommendations for changes to the language were modest and there were no objections to the suggested changes. A pizza lunch followed. Plenary was attended this year by the practice and office managers at the Rau Animal Hospital.

Faculty:

As with all academic years, there were new additions to the faculty, and faculty who did not return.

New Faculty: Jaime Login, Jennifer Maniet, Lisa Iverson and Dana Burkart

Returning after an absence: Josh Roesener

Did not return to VT: Christopher Reetz, Trina Russell

Conferences:

Dr. Bassert and Beverly Bisaccia organized the 2012 Vet Tech Symposium, which was held at the Marriot Courtyard in Plymouth Meeting on Sunday, October 7, 2012. Key note speaker, Dr. Jody Rockett, came from Idaho to speak to Manor Vet Tech alumni and members of the VT Advisory Committee. Dr. Rockett spoke about the veterinary technician practice model (VTPM) and its importance in clinical practice to establish a structured approach to patient management. Subsequently, Dr. Bassert and Dr. Rockett drove to the Atlantic Coast Veterinary Conference, where they spoke to veterinary technicians about the VTPM and its role in practice.

Dr. Bassert attended the North American Veterinary Conference in Orlando, Florida in January 2013, which included excellent CE classes. Dr. Bassert also met with Dr. Thomas Colville to plan the 3rd Edition of *Clinical Anatomy and Physiology for Veterinary Technicians*.

Full-time faculty attended the Penn Annual Conferences in March and VT alumni, led by Beverly Bisaccia, set up and manned the College's VT booth.

Dr. Komurek and Dr. Bassert will attend the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators (AVTE) symposium in July, 2013, which will be held in Denver, Co. Dr. Komurek will be speaking at this meeting with Dr. John Thomas regarding the formulation of effective rubrics.

Staff:

Charmaine Hofmann continues to be the backbone of the VT Office and finished her third year with the Program. She continues to develop an operations manual for the Program recording the details of Program management. Charmaine used Survey Monkey to generate the first on-line Current Student Survey. With the possibility of winning a \$100 gift certificate, student response was excellent.

Barn and Horse Care Team

Students, Brenda Schiff and Rachael Mayer, served as team co-captains of the Horse Care Team. For the second year, Team members included students from majors other than VT.

After many meetings with officials at the Motherhouse during the year, the following was accomplished:

1. New barn rules that were developed by Dr. Bassert last year and approved by horse owners were up-dated.
2. Dr. Bassert developed a New Horse Information Form and a New Owner Information Form, which were amended and approved by the horse owners and the Convent.
3. A new lease agreement for horse owners was drafted by John Kurey, reviewed and edited by Dr. Bassert and Convent officials.
4. Variations of the new lease agreement were made by Dr. Bassert and John Kurey and implemented. This lease will be used specifically by the owners of horses cared for by the Program.
5. Approval for the installation of new 5 foot high, 4-rail, post and rail fencing, proposed by Dr. Bassert, was granted. Installation of new fencing by Smucker Fencing began on May 7, 2013 in the following areas:
 - a. Safety Area: a new enclosure that separates horses in the field from the manure pile and the NE region of the barn. This enclosure allows safe passage of students and others with wheel borrows to and from the manure pile without direct contact with horses.
 - b. Pony Paddock: a new enclosure of the southwest portion of the barn, contiguous with the pony stall. This enclosure provides a moderately sized paddock for Cushingoid horses (on restricted pasture) and injured or debilitated horses to be outside.
 - c. Isolation Area: Wire fencing of the existing isolation area is replaced by safer, sturdier and more effective post and rail fencing to ensure that horses will not escape.
 - d. Sheep Pasture: Existing electric wire fencing is replaced with post and rail to ensure that horses will not escape.

New gates in all four areas were installed. All new forms and leases were implemented in the Spring 2013.

Advisory Committee:

The Program's Advisory Committee met on May 15, 2013, the Wednesday before Commencement. Dr. Bassert gave a "State of the Program" presentation that addressed major initiatives, accomplishments and intentions for the future and discussed the importance of the veterinary technician practice model that was discussed in the 2012 Vet Tech Symposium. Few Advisory Committee Members attended the Symposium. Refer to the attached Power Point presentation for specific information.

After lunch, the Committee was divided into small groups to brain storm ideas for curricular changes that would help the Program better prepare students for the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE). Some excellent ideas were presented and discussed.

Academics/Curriculum

There were many guest speakers this year in a variety of classes including: Dr. Elaine Hammel (equine), Paula Clifford, CVT (lab animal), Dr. Kimberly Mickley (exotics), Dr. Leonore Southam (equine), Beth Landers (librarian), Amy Bentz (VT228).

Field Trips continued to be an important part of the curriculum and included visits to the following facilities: Rau Animal Hospital, PAWS and PACCA Shelters in Philadelphia.

Learning assessment goals and outcomes were revised under the direction of Professor of Psychology, Dr. Christine Erdner.

Accreditation: The Program continues to be fully accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association's Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (AVMA-CVTEA). The next on-site review by AVMA-CVTEA will occur on October 1, 2 and 3, 2014.

Development, Facilities and Equipment:

Contributions for the x-ray equipment continued to grow slowly throughout the 2012-2013 academic year. A push to purchase the x-ray equipment before the Connolly grant expired in the spring, prompted a May purchase of the planned equipment. This included: a Simon-DR x-ray machine with a CCR direct digital detector and a Simon direct digital dental system. A new (used) automatic film processor will replace the existing one and the darkroom will be modified to better meet the needs of the Program. As the AVMA no longer requires it, the manual film processing tank and its associated plumbing were removed.

Refer to the section "Barn and Horse Care Team" for information about the installation of new fencing.

As part of a grant with the Montgomery County Conservation District, 85 trees were planted on Earth Day, Monday April 22, in the region directly behind the Library. This was the first stage of an initiative by the County to diminish the erosive effects of rain water run-off from Fox Chase Road through the convent property (running down-hill east to the west). Several veterinary technology students, staff and faculty participated in the tree planting project. A second phase of the project will take place in the Lower Pasture next summer. Veterinary Technology students will participate in the latter phase as well as the initial one that was carried out on Earth Day.

The acquisition of additional clinical equipment included: a portable surgical light (donated), a new rabbit rack and two portable IV poles (purchased) as well as the new fencing at the barn and the new x-ray equipment that have been mentioned (both purchased).

2013-2014

Students:

Enrollment:

The fall began with a warm welcome to 30 new incoming freshmen. Total enrollment for the fall semester, including returning students was 98 students.

Fall 2013

Incoming Freshmen Enrollment: 21 FT, 9 PT

Returning Sophomore Enrollment: 53 FT, 15 PT

Total: 98 students

Spring 2014

Freshmen Enrollment: FT =17, PT =6

Sophomore Enrollment: FT= 31, PT=19

Total: 73 Students

New Student Orientation and Study Skills Workshop:

Tricia Luddecke organized another successful New Student Orientation and Study Skills Workshop for the Vet Tech students in the fall 2013.

Advising

As in previous years, the freshmen are advised by Dr. Bassert and Beverly Bisaccia. The sophomores are advised by Dr. Komurek and Beverly Bisaccia. Beverly primarily advises part-time students while Dr. Bassert and Dr. Komurek primarily advise full-time students. In this way, the advisor is likely to also be the student's instructor. This system facilitates advising because it increases the frequency of contact between the advisor and the student throughout the semester.

Student Activities and Program Outreach:

An active group of freshmen and sophomores participated in the Student Chapter of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (SCNAVTA). Students participated in a variety of activities organized by Beverly Bisaccia including:

1. A fall and spring Dog Wash,
2. "Shelter Volunteer Days," which involved working at regional Philadelphia shelters,
3. A "Save The Easter Bunny Drive," which collected materials to support Luv-N-Buns in Conshohocken,
4. A "Shelter Animal Christmas Present Drive" to collection materials to support regional shelters,
5. Participated in the Mutt Strut, which raised money for PAWS and had a booth there for outreach.
6. Sponsored a "Dog For The Day"
7. Designed and sold T-shirts and sweat-shirts.

Additional marketing for the Program involved alumni-managed booths at the Penn Annual Conferences, and Fox Chase Farm's "Farm to Table Day."

Honor Council, Honor Code and Plenary

The Vet Tech student body and faculty gathered on Wednesday, April 16 for Plenary and ratified the Program's Honor Code. The Honor Counsel's recommendations for changes have been implemented and the revised Honor Code will go into effect in the fall 2014. A pizza lunch followed.

Faculty:

As with all academic years, there were new additions to the faculty, and faculty who did not return.

New VT faculty: Dr. Louise Wade, Dr. Tara Strickler, Christine Poll, CVT, BS

Returning VT faculty after an absence: Dr. Joshua Roesener

Did not return to VT: Dr. Erica Wolbramsky, Brandy Terry, CVT, VTS (ECC), Dana Burkart, CVT, Lisa English, CVT.

Conferences:

Dr. Komurek, Beverly Bisaccia and Dr. Bassert attended the Association of Veterinary Technician Educator's (AVTE) Conference in Denver, Colorado last summer. Dr. Komurek, and Dr. John Thomas from Ohio, lead a well-attended and inter-active workshop on rubric development. After the Symposium, Drs. Komurek and Bassert participated in the post-Symposium trip to Glenwood Springs, CO to tour the veterinary educational facilities at Colorado Mountain College.

Dr. Bassert and Dr. Rosemary Cook, from Johnson College in Scranton, Pennsylvania, are organizing the 2014 meeting of the Northeast Veterinary Technician Educators Association (NEVTEA). The meeting will be held at Johnson College on Saturday, July 19, 2014. Guest speakers will include Dr. Robert (Pete) Bill from Purdue University and Dr. James Hurrell of Penn Foster College.

Staff:

Charmaine Hofmann finished her fourth year with the Program and continues to keep the VT office running smoothly. For the second year in a row, we had an excellent completion rate of the new on-line Current Student Survey. Charmaine also expanded and improved the VT faculty orientation check list (Refer to 2013-2014 faculty handbook p. 31, Part 4), which facilitates and stream-lines the orientation of new faculty members.

Barn and Horse Care Team

During the 2013-2014 academic year, students Amanda Parylak, Kristen Folk and Katelyn Reeder, served as the Managing Captain, the Ordering Captain and the Cleaning/Maintenance Captain respectively. The academic year went smoothly at the barn with the exception of one surgical colic (Huey) and one medical colic (Bobcat) this spring. The surgical colic was transported to the New Bolton Center where a colonic nephro-splenic entrapment was found. The gut mucosa was in excellent condition and there was no need for resection. Dr. Janet Johnstone performed the surgery. Due to the unlikelihood of recurrence (3%-7%), no colopexy or ligament ablation was performed. Post-operative recovery occurred at Manor College and was unremarkable.

Advisory Committee:

The Program's Advisory Committee met on May 14, 2014, the Wednesday before Commencement. Dr. James Hurrell, from Penn Foster, spoke about the value of on-line

education. In addition, Dr. Bassert briefed the Advisory Committee about AVMA-accreditation requirements and reviewed the schedule of the forthcoming on-site inspection on October 1-3, 2014.

Academics:

Small Animal Clinical Laboratories:

Dr. Komurek's clinical laboratories provided preventive health care to approximately 97 cats this year, including 55 castrations. In addition, students visiting Philadelphia shelters performed venipuncture and heartworm testing on approximately 70 dogs.

Guest Speakers/Curriculum

There were many guest speakers this year in a variety of classes including: Dr. Elaine Hammel (equine), Paula Clifford, CVT (lab animal), Brandy Terry, CVT, VTS (emergency and critical care), Dr. Leonore Southam (equine), Dr. Elaine Hammel (equine), Beth Landers (librarian).

Field Trips continued to be an important part of the curriculum and included visits to the following facilities: Mathew Ryan Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, the New Bolton Center, Metropolitan, PAWS and PACCA Shelters in Philadelphia.

Accreditation: The Program continues to be fully accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association's Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (AVMA-CVTEA). The next on-site review by AVMA-CVTEA will occur on October 1, 2 and 3, 2014.

Development, Facilities and Equipment:

A Carl Perkins grant enabled the acquisition of additional clinical equipment including:

1. A new multi-parameter patient monitor for the small animal clinical lab (Room 15)
2. A portable large animal x-ray machine with two lead aprons and two sets of lead gloves and a cassette holder (Barn).
3. A blood coagulation machine for the microscopy lab (Room 17).

Program of Veterinary Technology

History of the Program 2014-2015

Students:

Enrollment:

The fall 2014 began with a warm welcome to 28 new incoming freshmen. Total enrollment for the fall semester, including returning students was 78 students.

Fall 2014

Incoming Freshmen Enrollment: 18 FT, 10 PT

Returning Sophomore Enrollment: 39 FT, 11 PT

Total: 78 students

Spring 2015

Freshmen Enrollment: FT = 16, PT = 12

Sophomore Enrollment: FT= 21, PT= 13

Total: 62 Students

New Student Orientation and Study Skills Workshop:

Tricia Luddecke organized another successful New Student Orientation and Study Skills Workshop for the Vet Tech students in the fall 2014.

Advising

As in previous years, the freshmen are advised by Dr. Bassert and Beverly Bisaccia. The sophomores are advised by Dr. Komurek and Beverly Bisaccia. Beverly primarily advises part-time students while Dr. Bassert and Dr. Komurek primarily advise full-time students. In this way, the advisor is likely to also be the student's instructor. This system facilitates advising because it increases the frequency of contact between the advisor and the student throughout the semester. Each of us advised 20 or 21 students this year.

Student Activities and Program Outreach:

An active group of freshmen and sophomores participated in the Student Chapter of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (SCNAVTA). Students participated in a variety of activities organized by Beverly Bisaccia including:

1. A fall and spring Dog Wash (Biggest one ever!!)
2. "Shelter Volunteer Days," which involved working at regional Philadelphia shelters,
3. Participated in the Mutt Strut, which raised money for PAWS and had a booth there for outreach.
4. Designed and sold T-shirts and sweat-shirts.
5. Sponsored the Best Classmate Award at the Pinning Ceremony

Additional marketing for the Program involved alumni-managed booths at the Penn Annual Conferences, and Fox Chase Farm's "Farm to Table Day."

Honor Council, Honor Code and Plenary

The Vet Tech student body and faculty gathered on Thursday, April 23 for Plenary and ratified the Program's Honor Code. The Honor Counsel's recommendations for changes have been implemented and the revised Honor Code will go into effect in the fall 2015. A pizza lunch followed.

Faculty:

As with all academic years, there were new additions to the faculty, and faculty who did not return.

New VT faculty: Dr. Erin Vogelsong (VT102 Lab), Ms. Jaqueline Wivel, CVT, LATg
Did not return to VT: Ms. Lorelei Lankin, CVT, LAT

Conferences:

Dr. Komurek, Beverly Bisaccia and Dr. Bassert will attend the Association of Veterinary Technician Educator's (AVTE) Conference in Niagara Falls, Canada this summer. In addition, Dr. Komurek will also attend the PVMA spring meeting. Under the direction of Beverly Bisaccia, the Program maintained its annual booth at the Penn Veterinary Conferences and has been selected to serve on the AVMA-CVTEA on-site review team of Penn Foster's Veterinary Technology Program, which is based in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Staff:

Charmaine Hofmann finished her fifth year with the Program and continues to keep the VT office running smoothly. This year, Charmaine launched the new Program Assessment Plan electronically; we are currently collecting and analyzing results.

Barn and Horse Care Team

During the 2014-2015 academic year, students Ciara Fredericks, Krista Gabarro, Samantha McWilliams and Carolyn Kennelly served as the Communications Captain, the Ordering Captain, Preventive Health Captain and the Cleaning Captain respectively. The Preventive Health Captain was a new position this year, which was highly successful in helping to ensure that the horses were regularly evaluated ("weighed" and TPR), and that the faculty stayed on schedule regarding immunizations and the timely administration of anthelmintic medication. The academic year went smoothly at the barn. Frosty has continued to lose weight on a restricted diet and is ambulating much better. Huey, who underwent intra-abdominal surgery for a nephron-splenic intestinal entrapment, continues to do very well.

Advisory Committee:

The Program's Advisory Committee met on May 13, 2015, the Wednesday before Commencement.

Academics:

Small Animal Clinical Laboratories:

Dr. Komurek's clinical laboratories provided preventive health care to approximately 77 cats this year, of which approximately 71 cats were castrated. In addition, students performed venipuncture and heartworm testing on approximately 55-60 dogs and helped care for isolated cats with upper respiratory infections at the ACCT shelter in the Hunting Park section of Philadelphia.

Guest Speakers/Curriculum

There were many guest speakers this year in a variety of classes including: Dr. Mark Cofone (surgery), Dr. Elaine Hammel (equine), Paula Clifford, CVT (lab animal), Brandy Terry, CVT, VTS (emergency and critical care), Dr. Leonore Southam (equine), and Dr. Elaine Hammel (equine) and Dr Amy Bentz (equine) and Samantha Fabizzio, CVT, VTS (ECC) (small animal CPR and ECC).

Field Trips continued to be an important part of the curriculum and included visits to the following facilities: University Laboratory Animal Resources (ULAR) at Temple University, the New Bolton Center, HOPE Veterinary Hospital, ACCT Shelter in Philadelphia (lab sessions).

Accreditation: The Program's full accreditation status was renewed by the American Veterinary Medical Association's Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (AVMA-CVTEA). Based on the Committee's finding during the on-site review on October 1, 2 and 3, 2014, the Committee made the following comments:

Critical Deficiencies: None

Major Deficiencies:

1. Long range strategic planning by the College include improvement of existing facilities. (4a, 4b)
2. Medical records include signatures or initials for entries in order to emulate contemporary veterinary practice (5d).
3. Efforts continue to be made to analyze performance of graduates on the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) with the goal of consistently achieving pass rates at least equal to the national average of first-time criterion candidates (11a, 11b).

Development, Facilities and Equipment:

A Carl Perkins grant enabled the acquisition of additional clinical equipment including:

1. One hematocrit centrifuge and one whole blood centrifuge for the barn.
2. One chemistry analyzer and one Idexx Snap Pro for the Microscopy lab (Room 17).
An Idexx urine analyzer was also purchased with the grant but has not been installed yet.