



August 3, 2009

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Calendar

Monday, August 3

◆Nothing scheduled at this time.

Tuesday, August 4

◆SCAVMA pet food sale, SCAVMA store, 12:00-1:00

Wednesday, August 5

◆House Officer rounds, M202, 8:00-8:30
◆Necropsy rounds, M125 (necropsy gallery), 8:30-9:30
◆Abbott product talk for technicians, presented by Dr. Costello. All welcome. M269, 1:00-2:00

Thursday, August 6

◆General Pathology Book Club, M269, 12:00-1:00

Friday, August 7

◆LA Surgery Journal Club rounds, M288, 7:30-8:30
◆Cytology rounds, M125, 8:00-9:00
◆Oncology Journal Club/Lab meeting, M269, 9:00-11:00

Monday, August 10

◆Nothing scheduled at this time

Tuesday, August 11

◆SCAVMA pet food sale, SCAVMA store, 12:00-1:00

Wednesday, August 12

◆Necropsy rounds, M125 (necropsy gallery), 8:30-9:30
◆Tour: 3 people, Magruder Lobby, 12:00-1:00

Thursday, August 13

◆General Pathology Book Club, M269, 12:00-1:00
◆Tour: 25 middle school students. Tour guides: Liana Granum and Jocelyn Riehl. Magruder Lobby, 1:45-2:45

Friday, August 14

◆LA Surgery Journal Club rounds, M288, 7:30-8:30
◆Cytology rounds, M125, 8:00-9:00
◆Oncology Journal Club/Lab meeting, M269, 9:00-11:00
◆Tour: High School Reunion, 30 people. Tour guides: Liana Granum and Jocelyn Riehl. Magruder Lobby, 10:00-11:00
◆Tour: middle school 25 students. Tour guides: Liana Granum and Jocelyn Riehl. Magruder Lobby, 1:45-2:45

Ireland and the International Camelid Health Conference

Ireland is known for its hospitality, stunning vistas, and heady stouts. It is not however known for alpacas. In spite of that, a consortium of camelid veterinarians from around the world met in Galway this summer to discuss the Andean species, and I had the privilege of taking part.

To step back and indulge the Irish tradition of storytelling, it all started about four years ago, when Dr. Donal Connolly, the veterinarian for the main (only?) sizable alpaca herd in Ireland, stumbled upon OSU as a source for information. Irish alpacas were literally dropping dead from Tuberculosis, and he wanted help. I invited him to our camelid conference, and to bring this tale to a timely end, he became a regular, met Dr. Denis Ryan the following year, an Irish ex-pat alpaca practitioner from Australia, and the two of them hatched the plan for the International Alpaca Veterinary Conference in Galway. Veterinarians from at least nine countries and three continents attended, and the presenters were just as diverse. Oregon was well represented by Corvallis veteran camelid practitioner Pat Long and myself.

Ireland lived up to all expectations with verdant hills, ancient monuments, and narrow lanes coursing with tractors and livestock. My family and I enjoyed the trip of a lifetime. We saw alpacas only twice: Once at the farm where we did our demonstration lab, and once at a petting zoo surrounding a particularly historic carved stone, but the conference was state-of-the-art and comprehensive. For us Americans, it was a good indicator of the growing camelid health care programs in Australia and Europe. We may have to think more globally when we plan our next International Camelid Health Conference (2011). There's already talk of Peru!

~ Dr. Christopher Cebra
Head, Department of Clinical Sciences



Irish alpacas enjoying a lazy day in the countryside.

New Faculty



Dr. Patrick Chappell

Physiology

Dr. Chappell received his B.A. in Psychology from Emory University in Atlanta, and his Ph.D. from Northwestern University in Chicago. In 2000, he began his postdoctoral work at the University of California, San Diego Medical School, in the Department of Reproductive Medicine. He now studies reproductive neuroendocrinology and circadian biology involved in regulation of the reproductive axis.

Dr. Chappell has been working at OSU in the Department of Zoology for the past four years and has recently happily relocated to the College of Veterinary Medicine. His duties here are twofold: teaching and research. Starting this fall, he will be teaching physiology/endocrinology to the first-year DVM students. He will also be continuing the research he had been doing in the Zoology Department. He has been studying reproductive endocrinology since 1994. "I love that I get to literally learn something new every day, and that I get to use multiple models to address scientific questions, ranging from cell culture work to studies with transgenic mice," he says of his research.

Raised in the Southeast and accustomed to life in the city, Corvallis has taken Dr. Chappell a bit to get used to, but now he says it's by far the best place he's lived. He doesn't mind the rain or overcast days, appreciates the natural beauty around us, and loves being close to both the mountains and the beach. He and his wife, an assistant professor in the Department of History at OSU, are finding Corvallis a great place to raise their 11-year-old son. They also have a 3-year-old black lab named Koda, an energetic but very well-behaved dog they rescued from Heartland Humane Society. Along with spending time with his family, spare time frequently finds Dr. Chappell playing his guitar, wine tasting or checking out the breweries that are littered around the Pacific Northwest.

Dr. Chappell was recently honored with a "Top Prof" award from OSU's Mortar Board for teaching and mentorship of undergraduates. He really appreciated the recognition and hopes that he can continue to share his love of science and medicine with the veterinary students.

News from Alumni

Rhonda Reaves prepares to deploy to Afghanistan

Dr. Rhonda Reaves, class of 2008, was honored to be accepted into the Army Health Professionals Scholarship Program and was commissioned into the U.S. Army as a captain in 2004 during her first year as a veterinary student. The following summer she participated in active duty for training where she visited Army Veterinary Treatment Facilities around the country and became a part of their team for a month or so. This time was used to help prepare her for what she would face after graduation.

Upon graduating, CPT Reaves entered active duty in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps and was stationed at Eglin Air Force Base in Valparaiso, Florida. For the past year she has been running a small animal veterinary treatment facility at the base where she is responsible for the complete care of the military working dogs at her station. She treats the pets of service members as well.

In October 2009, she will turn in the keys to the clinic in Florida and begin a twelve-month assignment in Afghanistan. "As far as I know, my responsibilities will be caring for the military working dogs in my area of operation, aiding in the acquisition of safe food and water for the troops, and helping to train and educate the local people in matters of public health and animal welfare," CPT Reaves says of her deployment. "There is really no way of knowing exactly what to expect on a deployment in such a volatile area. Nonetheless, I'm always up for a challenge and hope to learn a lot and bring myself and my soldiers home safely."



Dr. Reaves monitoring a military dog after surgery.