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Dr. A. Perretich, I. Paesend, N. Neelen, T Graham, and Dr. D. Bhar presented an abstract entitled “Regulation of Atf5 by mRNA levels during ischemia and reperfusion” at the 2007 Experimental Biology Annual Meeting held in April in Washington, DC.

Also at the Experimental Biology Annual Meeting, M Sukhthanan, Dr. K Yamaguchi, Dr. M McCartney, and Dr. SJ Baek presented “Green tea catechins suppress fibroblast growth factor in vitro and in vivo.”

N. Whitlock, Dr. K Yamaguchi, and Dr. SJ Baek presented “Non-stereoidal anti-inflammatory drug activated gene (NAG-L) as a chemopreventive target in canine tumorigenesis” at the Experimental Biology Annual Meeting in Atlanta in March.

J. Phipps, along with Drs. JS Foster, DP Kestler, A Solomon, and JS Wall presented a poster entitled “Inhibition of Bence-Jones protein synthesis by RNA interference” at the 94th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Immunologists, held in Miami in May.

In March, Dr. K Tobias gave three lectures about gastrointestinal surgery emergencies and portosystemic shunts at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine Penn Annual Conference in Philadelphia.

Dr. Tobias presented four lectures at the British Small Animal Veterinary Association Congress in Birmingham, UK, in April. The topics of her lectures ranged from portosystemic shunts to surgical gastrointestinal biopsies to challenging ear cases.

At the European Association of Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging (Diagnostic and Irish Division) meeting, also in Birmingham, Dr. Tobias presented two lectures: “Advances in portosystemic shunt diagnosis” and “Radiology versus surgery: When results conflict.”
NIH Responds to Electronic Submission Comments

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced recently that some changes will be made to the electronic submission process as a result of suggestions from users. A major complaint was the inability to view the entire application before submission. Still, the transition from PureEdge Viewer to an Adobe-based application system (one that will likely support full-application viewing) is behind schedule, originally set for an April 1 launch.

Nonetheless, some error and warning messages will be rewritten to lessen the urgency of certain messages and reserve stronger language for instances that might cause delays in processing or rejection of applications. However, the cause of some of these warnings, the inconsistencies between eRA Commons and the Grants.gov application, is not being addressed, as NIH encourages investigators to update their eRA Commons information before submitting an application through Grants.gov.

The lengthy application guide was also updated in April, but NIH representatives suggest using the guide as a reference tool and not as a step-by-step set of instructions.

National Bio- and Ag-Defense Facility Site Visit Conducted

Officials from Kentucky and Tennessee met with the Department of Homeland Security site visit team April 23 at the proposed NBAF location in Somer, KY. The team finished conducting site visits in May, and they will choose a small number of potential sites to prepare an environmental impact statement.

The proposed consortium between the universities of Tennessee, Kentucky, and Louisville, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) offers expertise in veterinary and animal sciences as well as in human medicine, with over 3,000 full-time research faculty.

In addition, Kentucky’s governor has pledged full support in road construction and other infrastructure needs, and the community has offered to deed the property at minimal cost to the government.

The final decision will be made in October 2008, and construction on the chosen facility is scheduled to begin in 2009, with the facility fully operational by 2013.

AVAI Sends Cissell to Brazil

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Winds of Change in U.S. Patent Laws

The U.S. House Subcommittee on Commerce of a high protein, low carbohydrate diet on urinary saturation of calcium oxalate in healthy cats

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Aug. 1 Planet Dog Service animals & animal-assisted therapy 5,000 www.planetdogfoundation.org

Aug. 10 Bernice Barbour Foundation Preservation & care of animals Varies www.bernicebarbour.org


Ongoing Lotte & John Hecht Memorial Foundation Alternative medicine & cancer Varies www.hechtfoundation.org

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Dissecting the Impact Factor

What Does It Tell Us, and Does It Matter?

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Therefore, since articles in the 1990-1991 issues of the journal Biology of Reproduction were cited 726 times in 1992, and the journal produced 530 articles in 1992, the impact factor for that journal was 1.37. Of course, any journal’s impact factor can and will likely change over the years, making any given article seem stronger or weaker from one year to the next. Despite this fact, the impact factor is widely used as one method in academic evaluation for tenure.

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Furthermore, if a title is changed, it will affect the impact factor. For example, the Journal of Computer Science shows that using impact factor alone to judge the impact of an article might not be the best idea. Instead, the author finder feature of Web of Science shows how many times every article by a particular author has been cited. This technique might be a better indicator of publishing prestige.

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**VETERINARY MEDICINE**

**College of Veterinary Medicine**

**In This Issue**

Dr. Alfred Legrende received the university’s highest faculty honor at the April 11 Chancellor’s Honors Banquet by being named Macabeer, a symbolic commitment of his not only to scholarship, but also to students and society. Chancellor Loren Crabtree presented the mace, the first award of the evening, to “Dr. Legenderry,” as he affectionately known to some. An honor for research and creative achievement went to Dr. Xuemin Xu for his investigations into Alzheimer’s disease, and Dr. Seung J. Baek was recognized for professional promise in research and creative achievement for his studies in the chemopreventive effect of specific drugs and natural compounds.

The criteria for the award are originality, and the ability to stimulate a scientific attitude in others.

Veterinary students Tamara Lynn Lechner and Kristin Devere Miller (both of the Class of 2007) were also honored for having extraordinary professional promise.

At the CVMA’s 29th Annual Honors Convocation, Dr. Seung Baek received the Pfizer Animal Health Award for Excellence in Research for outstanding scientific achievement in veterinary medical research conducted within the past three years. The award is given annually to scientists who demonstrate the highest level of scientific achievement and whose work has the potential to advance veterinary medical research.

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**Mark Your Calendar**

**21st Annual Comparative and Experimental Medicine Graduate Student Research Symposium**

Next week, the Comparative and Experimental Medicine Graduate Program will host its first annual research day to highlight graduate student projects.

The symposium, which will take place on June 22, will have 15 presenters of both scientific posters and talks (see schedule at right). Admission is free for anyone who wishes to view the posters or hear the presentations. Organizers expect to have at least a hundred attendees drop in throughout the day.

The goal of the symposium is to foster networks within the program by giving students an opportunity to share research results, exchange ideas, and network with scientists in a variety of disciplines.

Students judged to have the best oral presentations will receive travel awards.

Some interest has been expressed regarding expanding the program in coming years to include residents, interns, post-doctoral researchers, and students. The research office welcomes future collaboration and would like to hear from anyone interested in contributing to future symposiums.

**Schedule**

9:00-10:00 Welcoming Remarks (A118 VTH*)

10:15-12:00 Poster Sessions (1st floor hallway)

1:00-3:15 Oral Presentations (A117 & A118)

3:30-4:30 Closing Remarks & Awards (A118)

*All events will take place in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Doctoral student Jonathan Pipps is one of 500 students and young researchers worldwide to be selected to attend the Lindau Nobel Laureates in Physiology or Medicine 2013 program of events.

Since 1951, the Lindau, Germany, meetings have allowed students to not only listen to the laureates’ lectures, but also to engage in round-table discussions with them.

**Phipps to Attend Meeting of Nobel Laureates in Germany**

**Research at the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine**