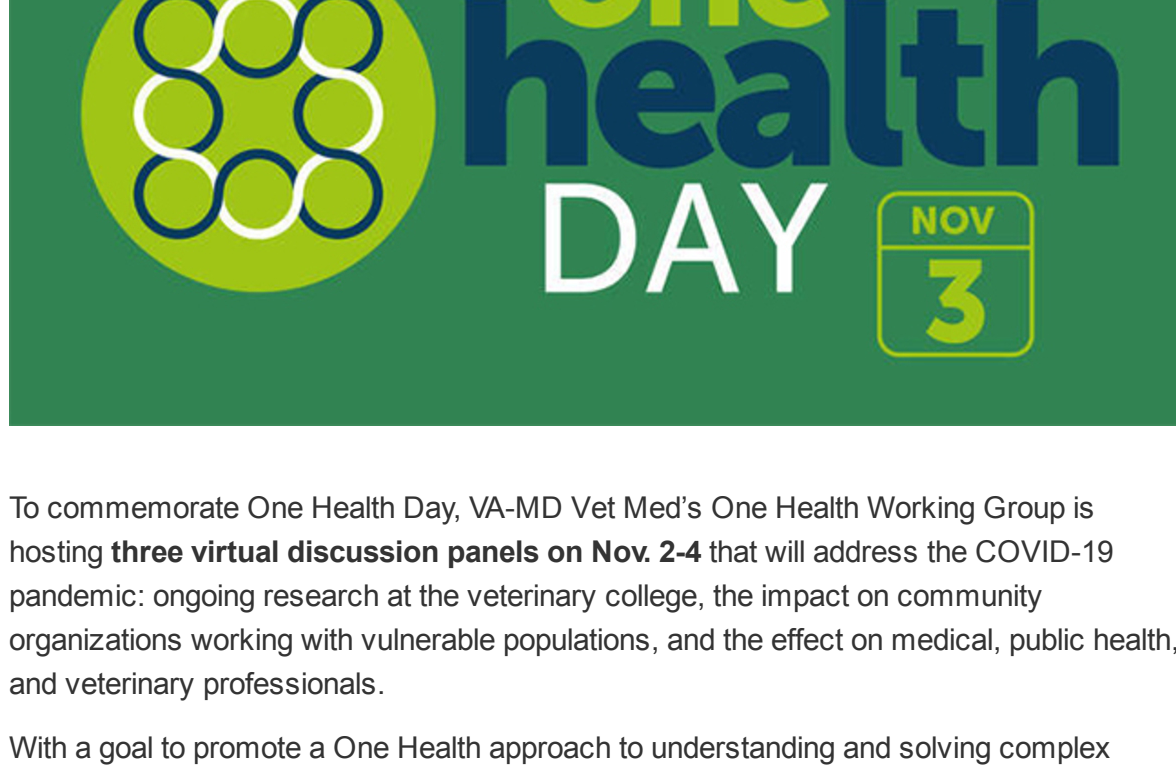


## Vet Med News

OCTOBER 2020



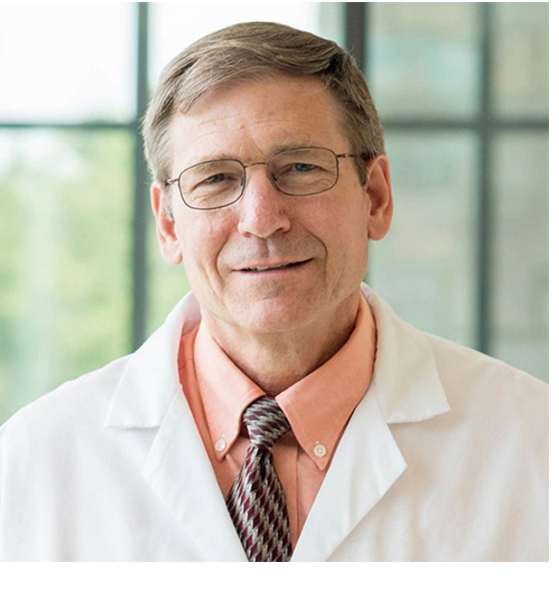
To commemorate One Health Day, VA-MD Vet Med's One Health Working Group is hosting **three virtual discussion panels on Nov. 2-4** that will address the COVID-19 pandemic: **ongoing research at the veterinary college**, the impact on community organizations working with vulnerable populations, and the effect on medical, public health, and veterinary professionals.

With a goal to promote a One Health approach to understanding and solving complex health issues, the One Health Working Group comprises 12 graduate and professional students who represent the college's veterinary, public health, and biomedical and veterinary sciences programs. The group also includes student liaisons from the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine.

Officially celebrated each year on Nov. 3, International One Health Day was initiated in 2016 to engage as many individuals as possible from as many arenas as possible in One Health education and awareness events and to generate an inspiring array of projects worldwide.

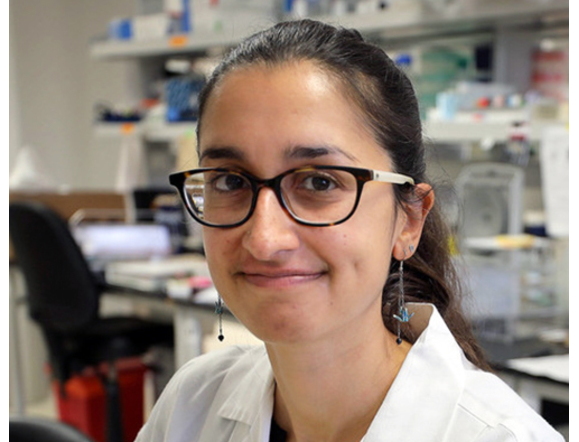
[Learn more and register →](#)

### Around the College



#### USDA grant awarded to study the survival of SARS-CoV-2 on surfaces

With a two-year, \$1 million grant from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, a Virginia Tech research team that includes virologist Andrea Bertke, associate professor in the Department of Population Health Sciences, is studying how long SARS-CoV-2 survives on food, surfaces, and food packaging and how to properly sanitize at all levels of food distribution and production.



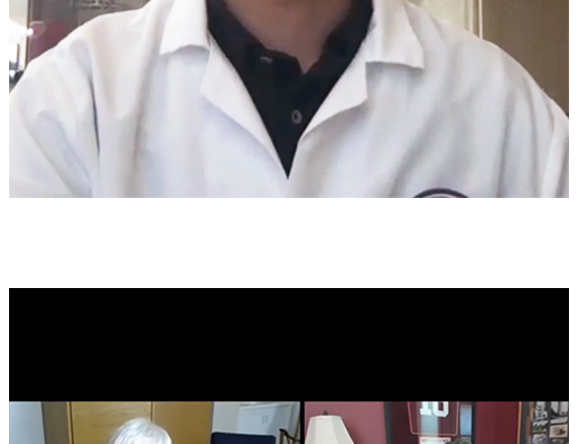
#### Monroe honored with emeritus status

In recognition of exemplary service to the university, Edward Monroe, professor of internal medicine in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences, has been conferred the title of professor emeritus by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors. A member of the VA-MD Vet Med community since 1986, Monroe specialized in endocrine diseases and brought considerable attention to the university and college. Congratulations, Dr. Monroe!



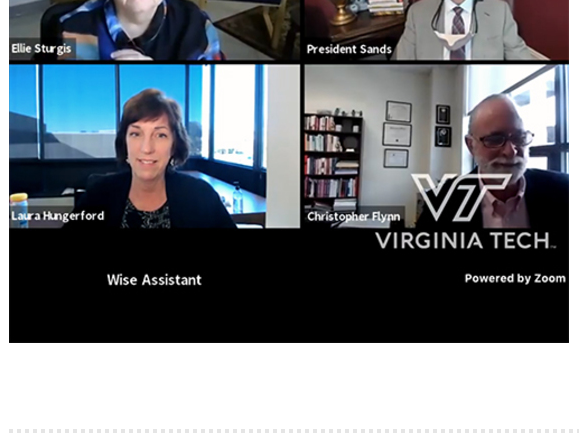
#### Duggal conducts research for Technical Assistance Program

Nisha Duggal, assistant professor of molecular and cellular biology in the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology, tested the capacity of SARS-CoV-2 to infect cells within a disinfecting cabinet developed by Virginia-based LiteSheet Solutions. The company's president enlisted Virginia Tech's Technical Assistance Program, which enables faculty members to respond quickly to market needs requiring technical expertise.



#### "Science in 3 minutes" video series

Hear from the VA-MD Vet Med researchers themselves about some of the groundbreaking work happening at the college in this video series from the Biomedical and Veterinary Sciences graduate program.



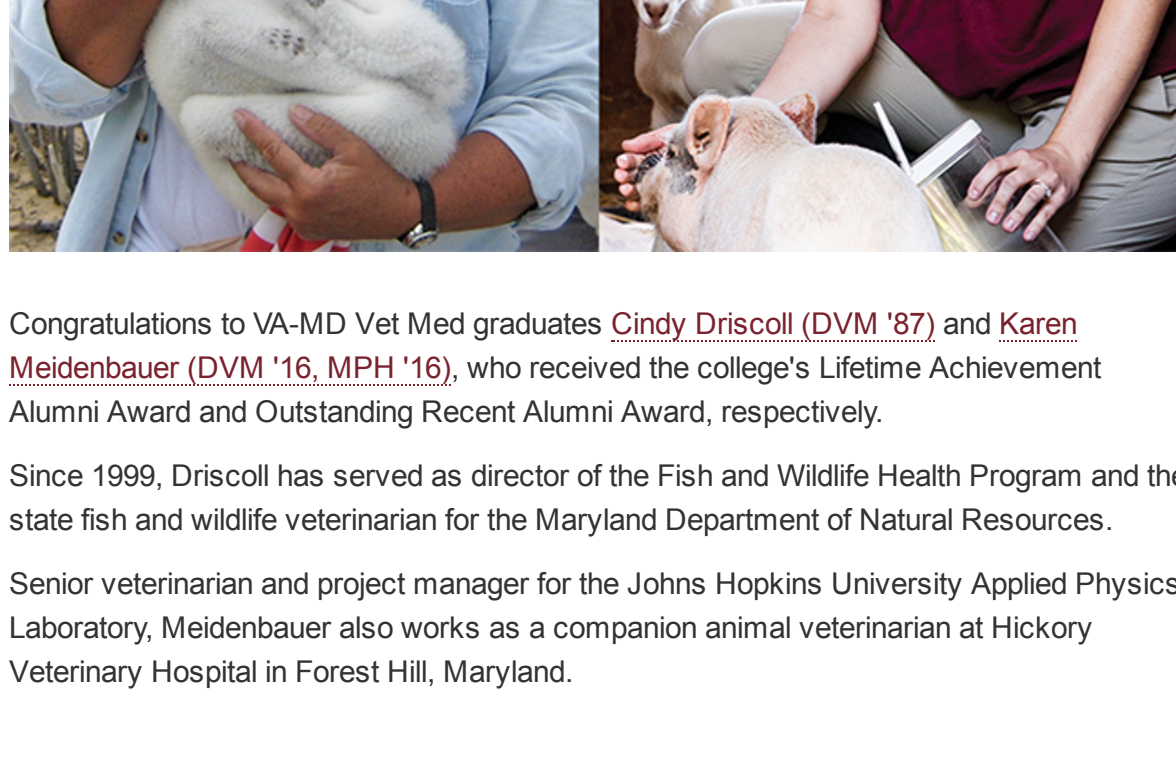
#### Hungerford participates on mental health panel

Laura Hungerford, head of the Department of Population Health Sciences, was one of four faculty members who joined Virginia Tech President Tim Sands for an Oct. 5 virtual conversation about mental health. The discussion came at a critical time: near the midway point of the semester amidst ongoing, stressful circumstances nationwide.

### Vet Med Alumni

[VA-MD Vet Med Alumni online→](#)

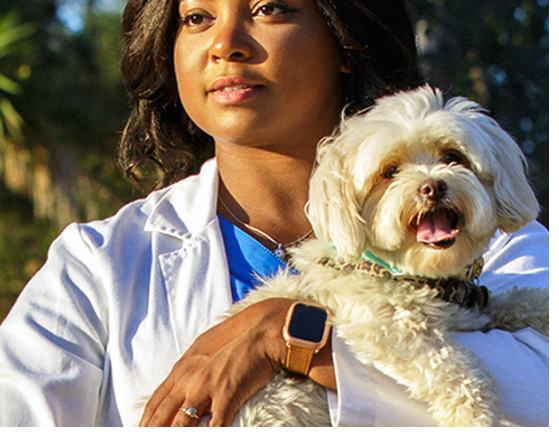
#### 2020 Alumni Award Winners



Congratulations to VA-MD Vet Med graduates [Cindy Driscoll \(DVM '87\)](#) and [Karen Meidenbauer \(DVM '16, MPH '16\)](#), who received the college's Lifetime Achievement Alumni Award and Outstanding Recent Alumni Award, respectively.

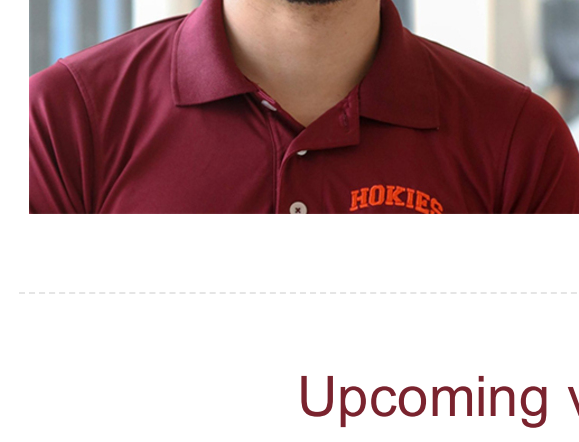
Since 1999, Driscoll has served as director of the Fish and Wildlife Health Program and the state fish and wildlife veterinarian for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

Senior veterinarian and project manager for the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Meidenbauer also works as a companion animal veterinarian at Hickory Veterinary Hospital in Forest Hill, Maryland.



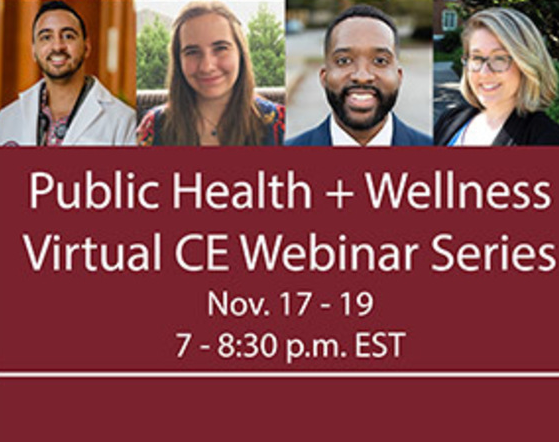
#### Alumna featured in NY Times

Don't miss The New York Times's account of Cronutt, a 7-year-old sea lion that suffers from epilepsy after being intoxicated by domoic acid in the wild. Cronutt's care team, which includes VA-MD Vet Med's 2019 Outstanding Recent Alumni Award winner Claire Simeone (DVM '11), performed groundbreaking brain surgery aimed at reversing the epilepsy. Simeone is founder and CEO of [Sea Change Health](#).



#### Alumna featured in Time

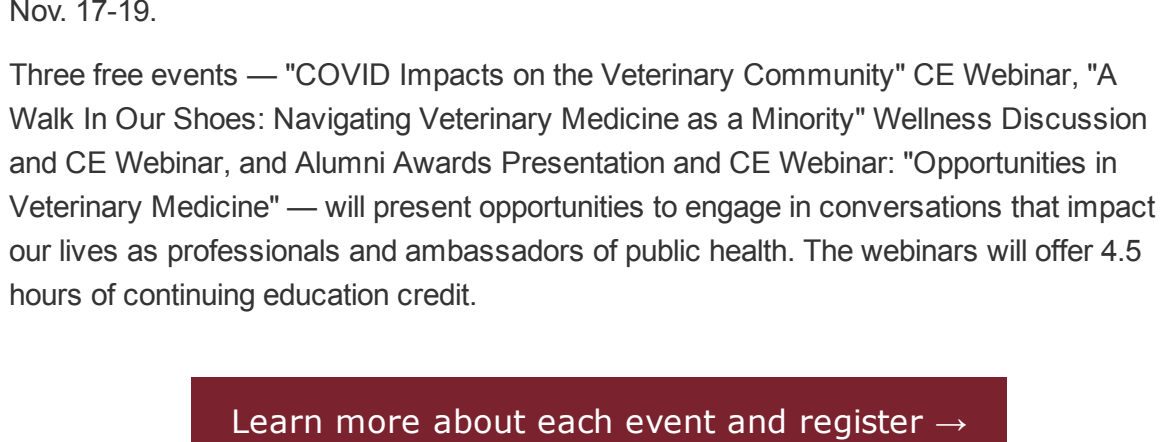
Tierra Price (DVM '20, MPH '20), a community medicine veterinarian in Los Angeles, is featured in a Time magazine story, "Pet Owners Are Diverse, but Veterinarians Are Overwhelmingly White. Black Veterinarians Want to Change That." According to 2019 figures from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, of the more than 104,000 veterinarians in the U.S., nearly 90% are white, less than 2% are Hispanic and almost none are Black.



#### Alumnus helps keep Southwest Virginia safe

As he approached graduation during the height of a global pandemic, Malik Outram (MPH '20) sought a job that would allow him to put his public health training — and his passion — to work. His strong skill set in epidemiology and infectious disease is the backbone of his position as the COVID-19 Southwest Regional Containment Advisor for the Virginia Department of Health.

### Upcoming virtual events



**Public Health + Wellness Virtual CE Webinar Series**  
Nov. 17 - 19  
7 - 8:30 p.m. EST

Students, faculty, staff, alumni, and external practitioners are invited to participate in VA-MD Vet Med's Public Health and Wellness Virtual Continuing Education Webinar Series on Nov. 17-19.

Three in Our Shoes — "COVID Impacts on the Veterinary Community" CE Webinar, "A Walk In Our Shoes: Navigating Veterinary Medicine as a Minority" Wellness Discussion and CE Webinar, and Alumni Awards Presentation and CE Webinar: "Opportunities in Veterinary Medicine" — will present opportunities to engage in conversations that impact our lives as professionals and ambassadors of public health. The webinars will offer 4.5 hours of continuing education credit.

[Learn more about each event and register →](#)

### Vet Med in the News

**NIH funds development of novel Lyme disease vaccine**  
JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION ONLINE

**Renowned Tick Immunobiologist to Develop Lyme Disease Vaccine Under New \$3.5M Federal Grant**  
GLOBAL BIODEFENSE

**New listings in AVMA Animal Health Studies Database**  
JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION ONLINE

**Starting a career in veterinary medicine**  
INNOVATIVE VETERINARY CARE JOURNAL

**\$1 million grant to study the survival of SARS-CoV-2 on surfaces in the food supply chain**  
BIOENGINEER.ORG

**Virginia Tech Completes Testing of LiteSheet LED UV-C Disinfecting Cabinet Against SARS-CoV-2**  
HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY TODAY

**U.S. Coronavirus Cases Rise by Nearly 40,000**  
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

**Coronavirus FAQ: I See People Wearing Disposable Coveralls On Planes. Good Idea?**  
NPR

**Virginia Tech discusses its mental health initiatives**  
WDBJ

**COVID Crushers provides pandemic-related relief to Blacksburg community**  
WFXR



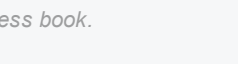
MPH student Fernanda Gutierrez and other members of the "COVID Crushers" distribute masks, hand sanitizer, and resources in downtown Blacksburg on Friday evenings.

**GIVE to VA-MD VET MED**

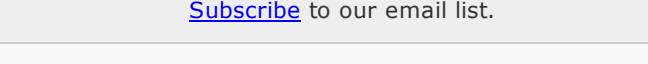
*Your support helps us advance knowledge, improve health, and save lives.*

**We're celebrating 40 years!**  
VA-MD Vet Med's first class matriculated in 1980.

### STAY CONNECTED

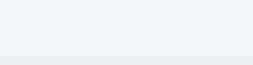


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