

## Vet Med News JULY 2020



From left: Margie Lee, Karen Hall, and Pete Jobst in the decontamination facility

A powerhouse team at the college successfully deployed a decontamination system that allows human health care workers to reuse scarce N95 respirator masks. Karen Hall, animal resource manager who led the deployment project, was joined by Margie Lee, a medical microbiologist and head of the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology; Pete Jobst, the college's director of facilities; and Jennifer Zambriski, assistant professor of epidemiology in the Department of Population Health Sciences and head of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital's infection control team. The system is helping to stretch supplies for health care providers in the region, including Carilion Clinic, the Roanoke-based nonprofit that comprises hundreds of clinics, hospitals, and specialist offices throughout Southwest Virginia.

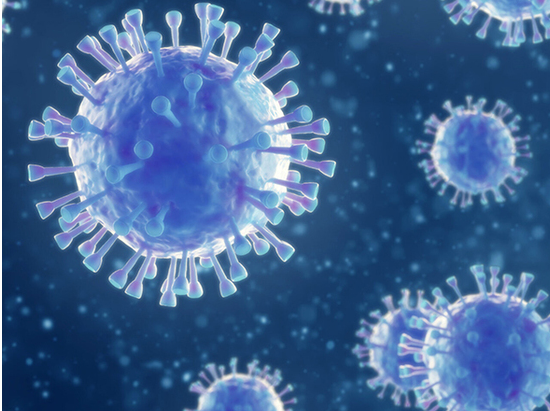
[Veterinary college deploys decontamination system to allow reuse of N95 masks →](#)

## Around the College



### New research center to tackle infectious diseases

Dr. X.J. Meng, University Distinguished Professor of Virology, is the founding director of the Center for Emerging, Zoonotic, and Arthropod-borne Pathogens. Faculty from across Virginia Tech, including VA-MD Vet Med's Tanya LeRoith, clinical professor of anatomic pathology, will work to develop effective countermeasures against emerging infectious diseases worldwide.



### COVID-19 research projects propelled by Rapid Response Seed Fund

Among the Virginia Tech researchers and scientists who initiated COVID-related research projects and received seed funding are VA-MD Vet Med faculty members: Kyndrea Bertke, Population Health Sciences; Kylena Kehn-Hall, Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology (DBSP); James Weger-Lucarelli (DBSP), and Lijuan Yuan (DBSP).



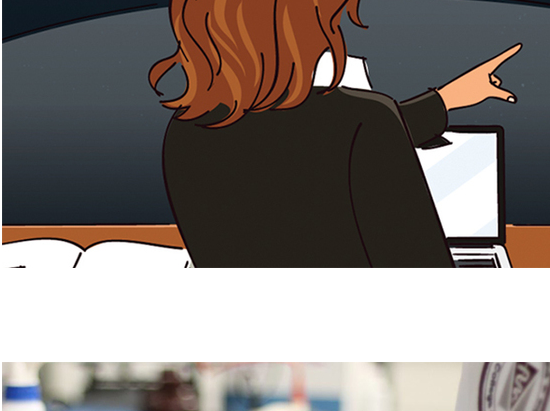
### Mohamed Seleem named Young Chair in Bacteriology

Mohamed Seleem (Ph.D. '06), recently appointed professor of bacteriology in the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology, was named the Tyler J. and Frances F. Young Chair in Bacteriology by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors. Seleem, who will lead the college's efforts in building infectious disease research capacity, arrived from Purdue University, where he developed a distinguished research program.



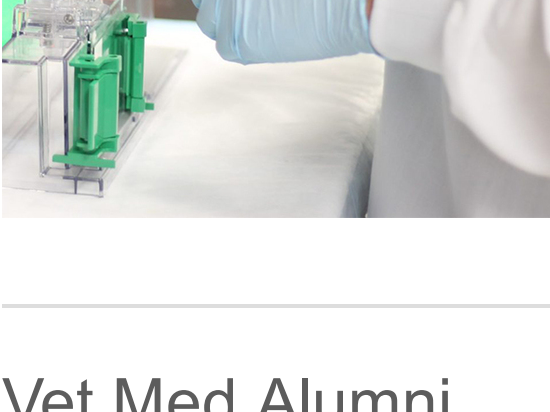
### Unique collaboration benefits equine emergency and critical care services at EMC

Generous sponsorship from Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center (EMC) Advisory Council Vice Chair Shelley Duke and her husband, Phil, has enabled Emily Schaefer, clinical assistant professor of internal medicine, to complete a fellowship in equine emergency and critical care with The Ohio State University's College of Veterinary Medicine.



### CPCVM online career transition workshop

Looking to create a new career path? Don't miss the Center for Public and Corporate Veterinary Medicine's (CPCVM) Online Career Transition Workshop, which offers 8 hours of RACE® CE. Multiple sessions will be offered in August, with information on opportunities in public and corporate veterinary medicine (with a particular emphasis on careers in the animal health industry).

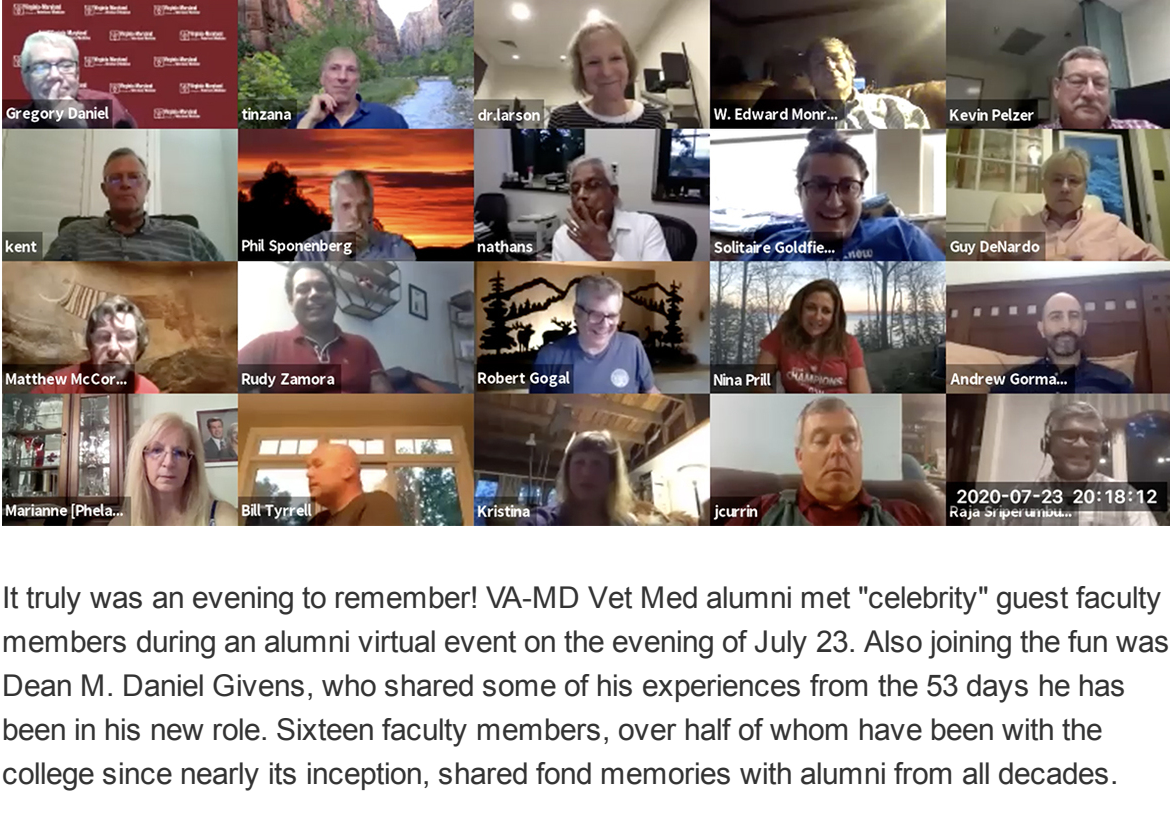


### Research and Graduate Studies blog launched

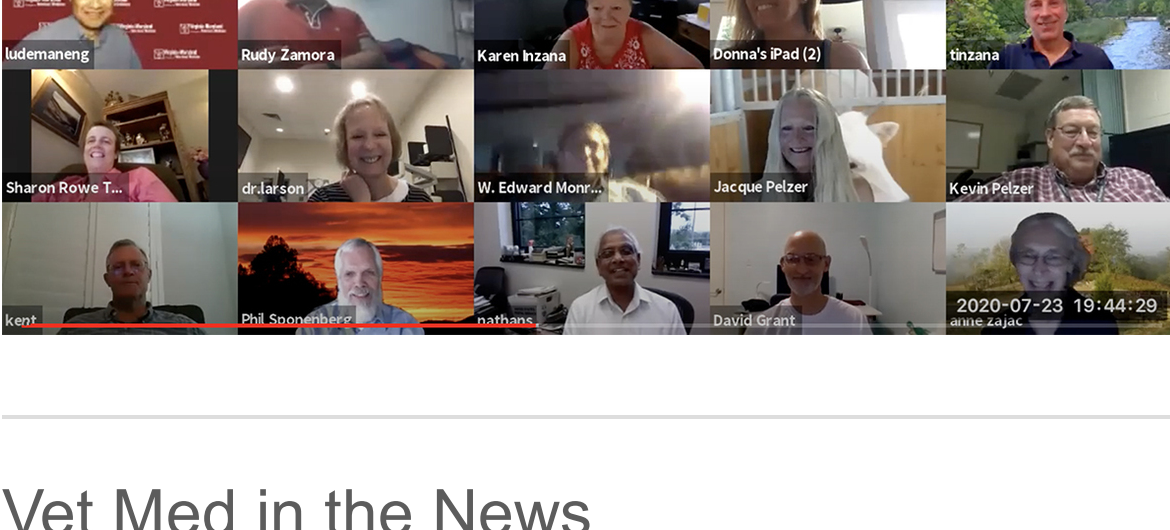
A blog devoted to Research and Graduate Studies has been established as an additional platform on which to highlight the research, grants, and activities of the program's faculty and graduate students. Full instructions for submitting research-related publications, presentations, grants, awards, service, and other recognition is available on the blog site.

## Vet Med Alumni

[Visit VA-MD Vet Med Alumni online →](#)



It truly was an evening to remember! VA-MD Vet Med alumni met "celebrity" guest faculty members during an alumni virtual event on the evening of July 23. Also joining the evening was Dean M. Daniel Givens, who shared some of his experiences of the 53 days he has been in his new role. Sixteen faculty members, over half of whom have been with the college since nearly its inception, shared fond memories with alumni from all decades.



## Vet Med in the News

[Fauci 'Cautiously Optimistic' of COVID-19 Vaccine by 2021 as Clinical Trials Open for Thousands](#)  
NEWSWEEK

[What's the Best DIY Face Mask Against COVID-19?](#)  
U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

[A fall without football a real possibility because of COVID-19 as NFL players, others raise questions](#)  
USA TODAY

[As Virginia colleges prep to open, some parents, staff worry](#)  
THE WASHINGTON POST

[Veterinary College Uses Decontamination System Allowing N95 Mask Reuse](#)  
BOVINE VETERINARIAN

[Mask myth-busting: why to wear them and why they work](#)  
WFXR FOX

[Spreading Germs: How many bacteria are trapped by masks?](#)  
WDBJ

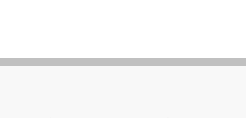
[How severe is COVID-19 in Delaware now? Experts weigh in](#)  
DELAWARE ONLINE

**GIVE TO VA-MD VET MED**

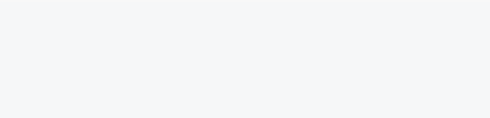
Your support helps us advance knowledge, improve health, and save lives.

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

## STAY CONNECTED

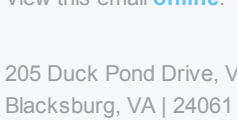


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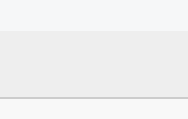
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