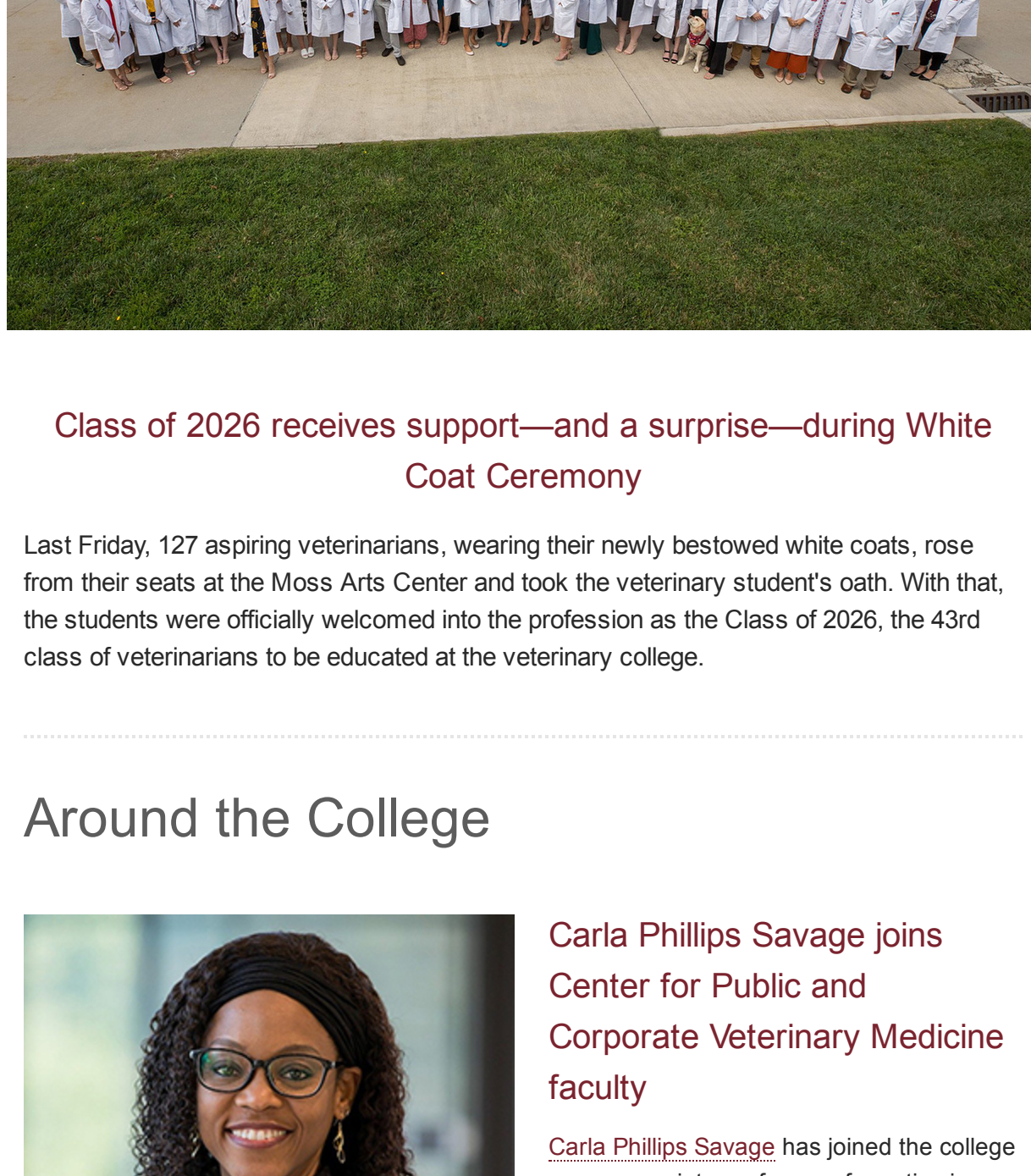


Vet Med News

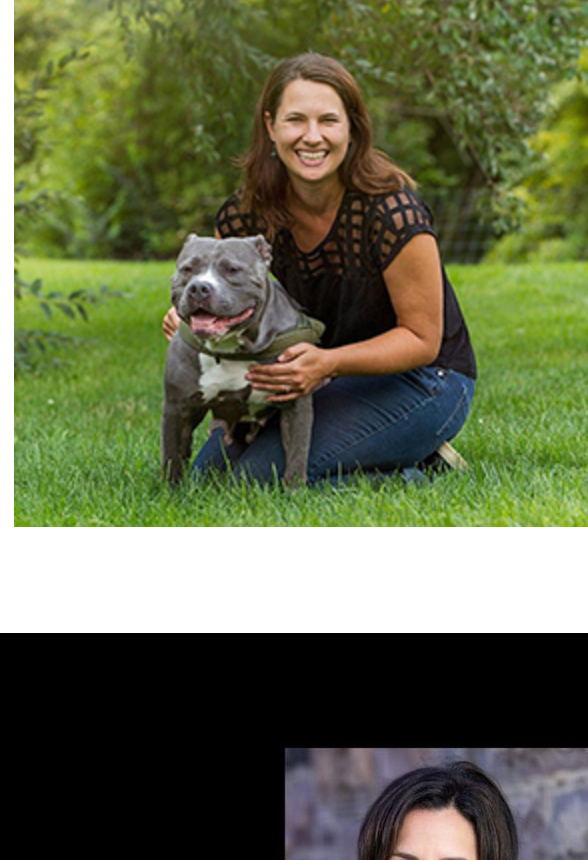
AUGUST 2022



Class of 2026 receives support—and a surprise—during White Coat Ceremony

Last Friday, 127 aspiring veterinarians, wearing their newly bestowed white coats, rose from their seats at the Moss Arts Center and took the veterinary student's oath. With that, the students were officially welcomed into the profession as the Class of 2026, the 43rd class of veterinarians to be educated at the veterinary college.

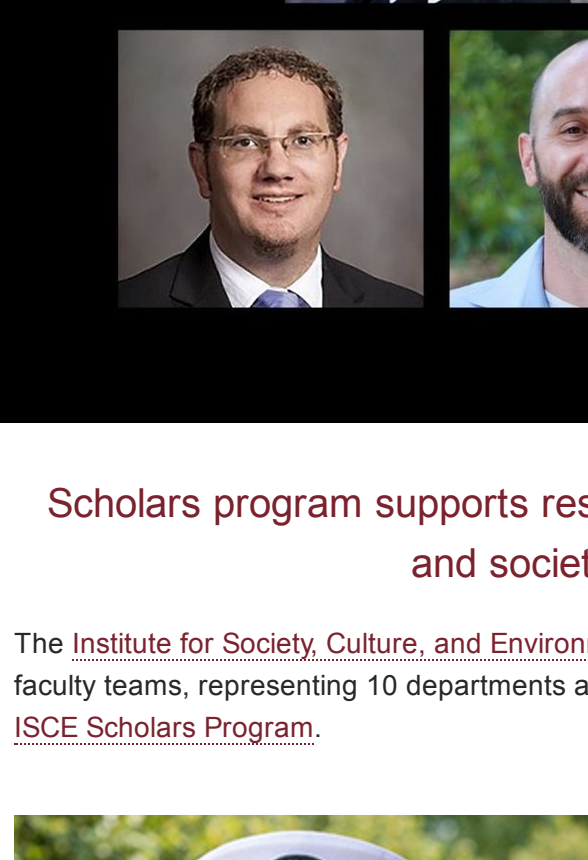
Around the College



Carla Phillips Savage joins Center for Public and Corporate Veterinary Medicine faculty

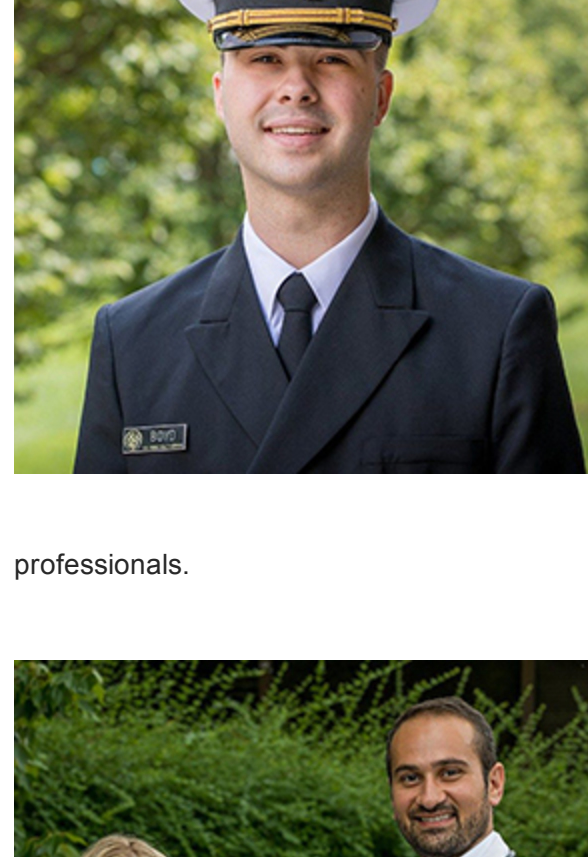
Carla Phillips Savage has joined the college as an associate professor of practice in aquatic animal medicine. Savage works within the [Center for Public and Corporate Veterinary Medicine \(CPCVM\)](#), which prepares veterinary students to enter the public and corporate sectors of veterinary medicine and provides resources to established veterinarians looking for a

career change.



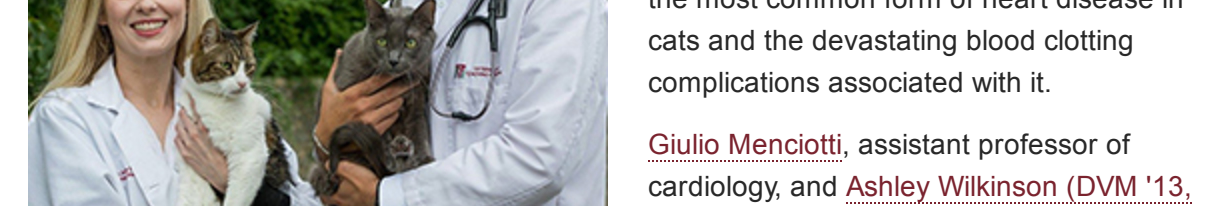
Veterinary college gets funding for research into parasite found in cats

Found in cats, *Toxoplasma gondii* is a human pathogen with serious health ramifications, causing life-threatening illnesses for people with immunodeficiencies, miscarriages in pregnant women, and blindness in newborn children. A National Institutes of Health grant will fund a two-year study to understand treatment options better.



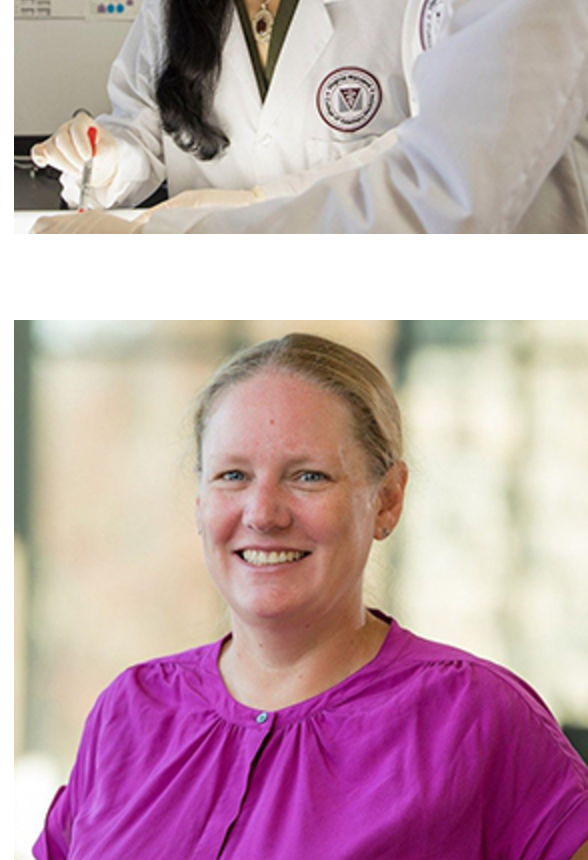
Veterinary alumna returns as faculty to work with students, shelter dogs

Erin Phoenix (B.S. '11, DVM '17) recently joined the college as a veterinary instructor with the Animal Care for Education team in the small animal clinical sciences department.



Scholars program supports research addressing critical human and societal concerns

The [Institute for Society, Culture, and Environment \(ISCE\)](#) has named four interdisciplinary faculty teams, representing 10 departments and six colleges, as recipients of the [2022-23 ISCE Scholars Program](#).



Veterinary student is commissioned into the U.S. Public Health Service and wins elite internship in a nationwide competition

William Boyd, a fourth-year public and corporate Doctor of Veterinary Medicine student also enrolled in the Masters of Public Health Program, was recently commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps (USPHS). He will join an elite team of more than 6,000 public health

professionals.

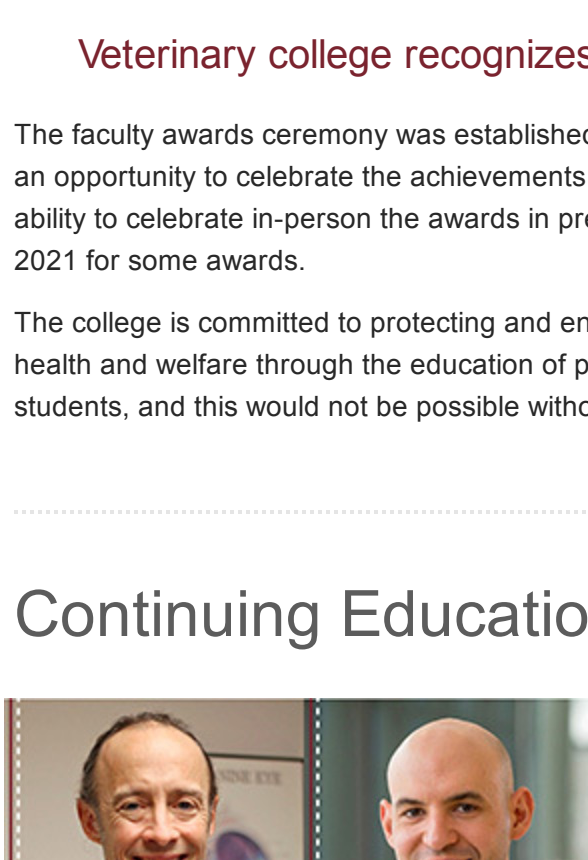


Veterinary college researchers to study most common heart disease in cats

Researchers at the college will investigate the most common form of heart disease in cats and the devastating blood clotting complications associated with it.

[Giulio Mencioiti](#), assistant professor of cardiology, and [Ashley Wilkinson \(DVM '13, M.S. '19\)](#), assistant professor of small animal internal medicine, have been awarded an EveryCat Health Foundation grant to study coagulation in cats with

hypertrophic cardiomyopathy using thromboelastography.



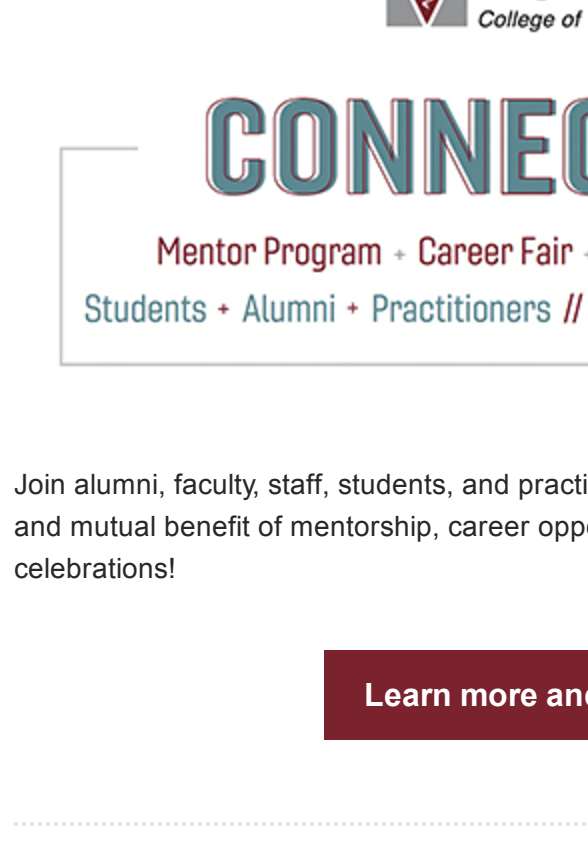
Virginia Tech researcher to test vaccine for norovirus

[Lijuan Yuan](#), professor of virology and immunology will evaluate a potential live oral vaccine for norovirus, the No.1 cause of foodborne illness.



Rell Parker named iTHRIV Scholar

[Rell Parker](#), assistant professor of neurology and neurosurgery has been named an iTHRIV Scholar. A collaboration between Virginia Tech, the University of Virginia, Carilion Clinic, and Inova, the Integrated Translational Health Research Institute of Virginia (iTHRIV) offers resources such as grant funding and training opportunities to research professionals and community partners conducting clinical and translational research.



Myriam Jimenez joins veterinary college as clinical assistant professor of production management medicine

[Myriam Jimenez](#) recently joined the college as clinical assistant professor of production management medicine.

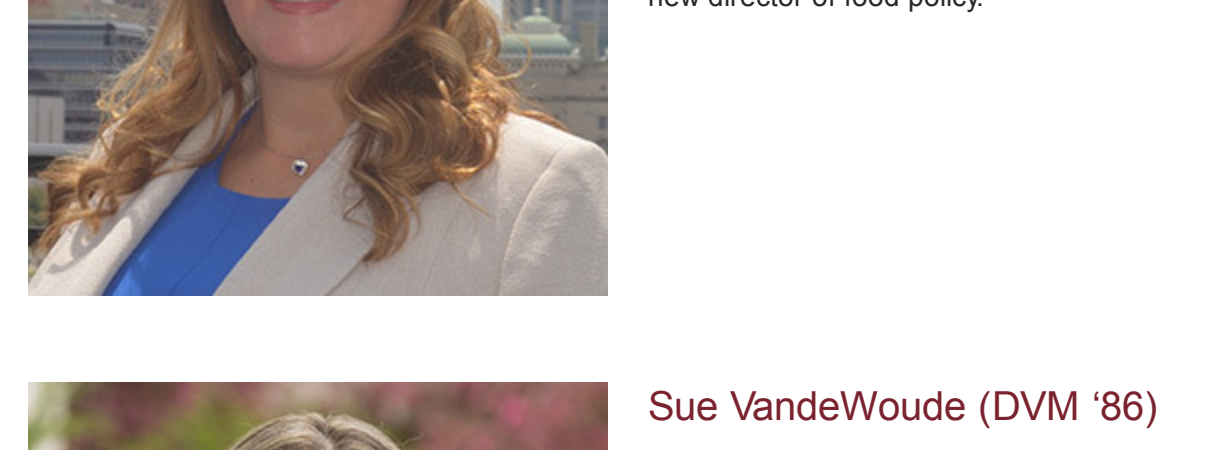


Veterinary college recognizes faculty excellence and impact

The faculty awards ceremony was established to formally thank faculty in person and to be an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the past year. Since COVID-19 affected the ability to celebrate in-person the awards in previous years, the event covered both 2020 and 2021 for some awards.

The college is committed to protecting and enhancing animal, human, and undergraduate health and welfare through the education of professional, postgraduate, and environmental students, and this would not be possible without the excellence shown by faculty.

Continuing Education



Virtual Small Animal Continuing Education Series - Sept. 13, 15, 20, 22

Join us for a virtual small animal continuing education series, featuring four 1.5 hour lectures on Sept. 13, 15, 20, and 22 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. for a total of six CE credits.

Registration is free, with a recommended \$100 donation to the VMCVM Wellness Memorial Fund, which directly supports wellness initiatives at the college.

[Learn more and register here →](#)



CONNECT + 2022

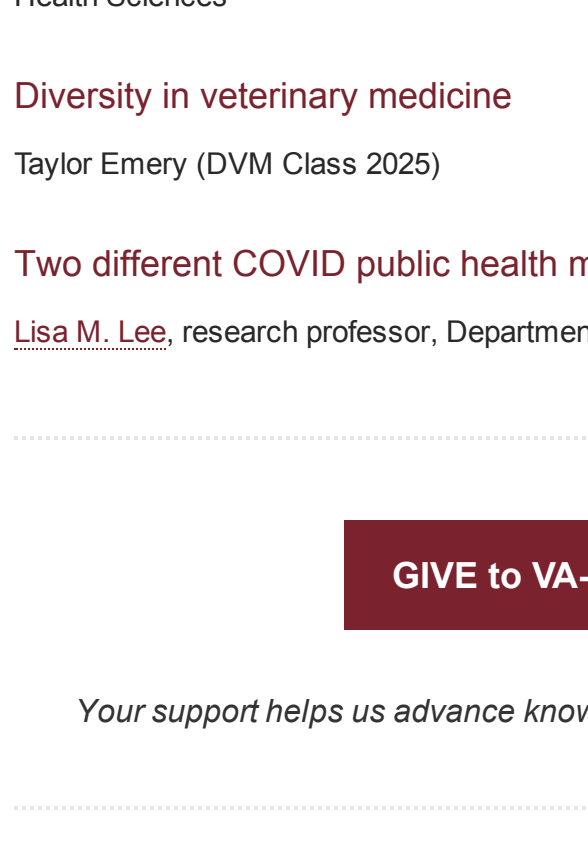
Mentor Program • Career Fair • Reunion • Continuing Education
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Join alumni, faculty, staff, students, and practitioners to meet and share the collective interest and mutual benefit of mentorship, career opportunities, continuing education, and reunion celebrations!

[Learn more and register here →](#)

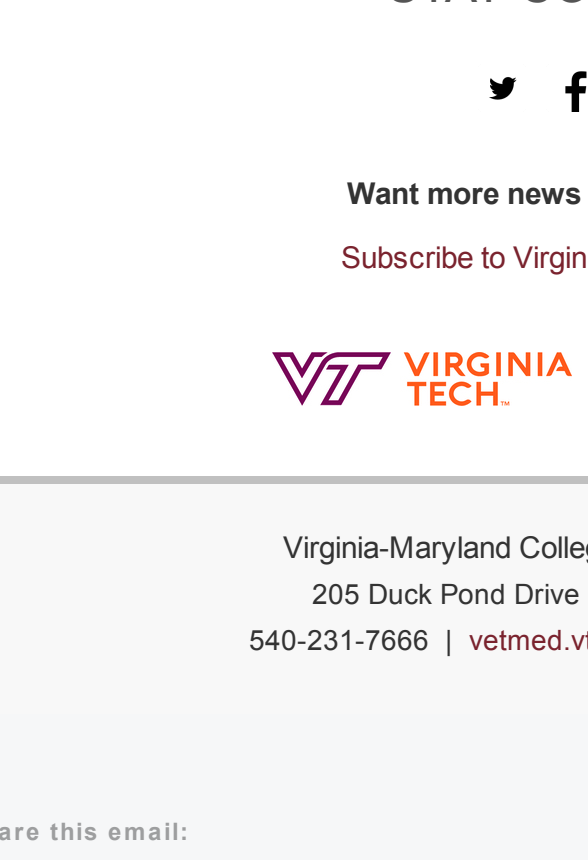
Vet Med Alumni

VA-MD Vet Med Alumni online →



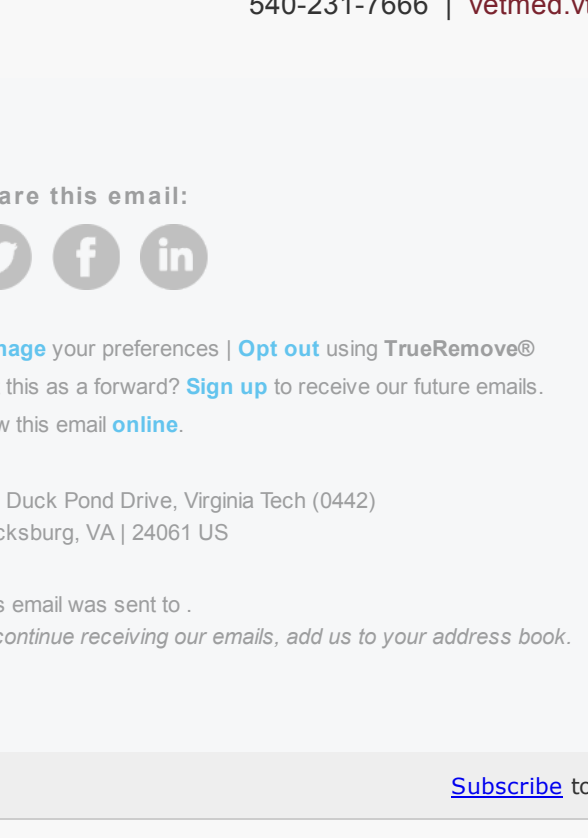
Jeff Alexander (DVM '98, PhD '15), new President of the VMCVM Alumni Board of Directors

Earlier this year, the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine's Alumni Board of Directors elected its next president, Jeff Alexander.



Alumni Reception

Great turnout at the VMCVM Alumni Reception at AVMA in Philadelphia, PA on July 29, 2022.



US NPPC appoints new director of food policy

The National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) in the United States recently appointed Ashley Johnson (DVM '13) as its new director of food policy.

Sue VandeWoude (DVM '86) named dean of CSU veterinary college

Sue VandeWoude, a Colorado State University distinguished professor and veterinary virologist, has been named the next dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences.

On the Road Again, A Mobile Veterinary Practice helps Fuel a young family's agricultural passions

Featuring [Brendan Martin \(DVM '15\)](#).

Vet Med in the News

Virginia Tech: Two new initiatives for students related to mental health

As part of its recent quarterly meeting this week, the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors discussed what is nationally a very hot topic in higher education: student mental health and well-being.

[Natalie E. Cook](#), assistant professor of public health, Department of Population Health Sciences
[See also on VTX website](#)

Kentucky officials confirm two cases of Theileria infections in cattle

Asian Longhorned Tick has been found to be a primary carrier for disease.

[VITALS: Virginia Tech Animal Laboratory Services](#)

Rabies bait drops resume and continue until August 31

Federal wildlife services were scheduled to resume dropping oral rabies vaccine packets Wednesday on parts of West Virginia including Mercer and McDowell Counties; pet owners with dogs and cats that were recently vaccinated for rabies are being advised to be cautious.

[Mark D. Freeman](#), clinical assistant professor, community practice

Lijuan Yuan, PhD, Presented with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award by Marquis Who's Who

[Lijuan Yuan](#), professor, Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology

Virginia Tech tests non-invasive alternative to surgery in dogs

[Joanne Tuohy](#), assistant professor, surgical oncology

Public health agencies lack money to combat climate threats

Medical experts say climate change will affect nearly every aspect of public health. Many of those impacts already are being felt.

[Julia M. Gohlke](#), associate professor, environmental health, Department of Population Health Sciences

Diversity in veterinary medicine

[Taylor Emery \(DVM Class 2025\)](#)

Two different COVID public health messages have emerged in Richmond

[Lisa M. Lee](#), research professor, Department of Population Health Sciences

GIVE to VA-MD VET MED

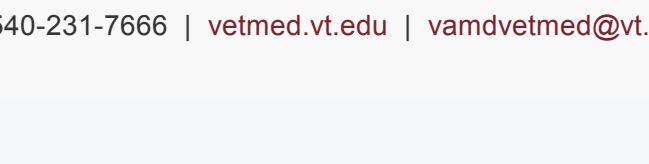
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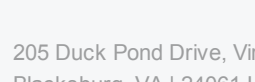
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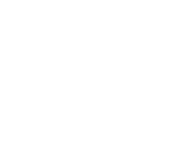
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