



Malayer Named McCasland Chair

Jerry Malayer, MS, PhD, associate dean for research and graduate education, was recently named the McCasland Foundation Endowed Chair in Food Animal Research. The appointment was approved during the January OSU/A&M Board of Regents Meeting ([full story](#)).

Dugat Appointed to Cohn Chair

Congratulations to **Danielle Dugat, DVM, MS, DACVS**, on her recent appointment to the Cohn Family Chair for Small Animals. Dugat is the board certified small animal surgeon at the Veterinary Medical Hospital. Her appointment was approved during the recent OSU/A&M Board of Regents meeting ([read more](#)).

Oomens Receives Grant

Congratulations to **Tom Oomens, PhD**, on receiving a 2-year NIH R21 grant! Oomens will use the grant to design and test a novel vaccine concept to protect infants and young children from Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV).

RSV can cause severe bronchiolitis and is responsible for many child fatalities world-wide. In the U.S., RSV sends many infants and young children to the hospital during the winter season. It can also cause significant health problems in the elderly.

Since there is no vaccine for RSV, Oomens' research is extra important. The experimental vaccine is live-attenuated and designed to better preserve the most immunogenic protein of RSV with the hope to evoke a broad immune response with strongly neutralizing antibodies.

Gruntmeir Enjoying Preceptor

Kaylynn Gruntmeir ('17) is spending one of her preceptors at Gully Animal Hospital located in Arlington, Texas (pictured below).

Two Complete Advanced Leadership Program

Congratulations to **Janisue Jones** and **Torie Garnatz** on successfully completing their first year in the OSU Advanced Leadership Program. Both employees were recognized at a luncheon ceremony where they each received a plaque.



Pictured above left to right are: **Dr. Grant Rezabek, Janisue Jones, Torie Garnatz** and **Dr. Danielle Dugat**.

Jones is the serology section manager at OADDL supervised by **Dr. Grant Rezabek**, OADDL serology head and pathologist. Garnatz is the Veterinary Medical Hospital's ICU supervisor and technician. She is supervised by **Dr. Danielle Dugat**, assistant professor and small animal surgeon.

Oklahoma Center for Respiratory and Infectious Diseases Seminar

Justin Thornton, PhD, will present "Bacterial and Host Factors Impacting Pneumococcal Pathogenesis" on Wednesday, Feb. 8, at 12:15 p.m. via telecommunications in Room 259 McElroy Hall. Thornton is an assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Mississippi State University.



"Drs. Roy Gully, Brad Franklin ('04) and Gena Williams ('06) are three exceptional doctors who have made me feel welcome," says Gruntmeir. "With more than 50 employees, this clinic is always busy with opportunities and people to learn from. Everyone has treated me like family and given me the confidence to enhance my veterinary medical skills at my comfort level."

House Officer Seminar

Leslie Wagner, DVM, will present "Bovine Respiratory Disease: Immunization vs. Vaccination" on Thursday, Feb. 9, at 8 a.m. in Room 104 at the Veterinary Medical Hospital. Wagner is a food animal medicine and surgery resident mentored by **Dr. John Gilliam**.

Veterinary Biomedical Sciences Seminar

Wenjun Ma, DVM, PhD, will present "2009 Pandemic H1N1 and Beyond" on Thursday, Feb. 9, at 4 p.m. in Room 259 McElroy Hall. Ma is an associate professor at Kansas State University.



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OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT
308 MCELROY HALL, STILLWATER, OK 74078
DERINDA BLAKENEY - DERINDA@OKSTATE.EDU