

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE



A CENTENNIAL HISTORY

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THE
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
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First Century
A CENTENNIAL HISTORY

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Peter Harriman and Ghery D. Pettit DVM

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FOREWORD



ACENTURY HAS PASSED SINCE THE OFFICIAL BIRTH IN 1899 OF THE COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE at Washington State University, the fifth oldest veterinary school in the United States. This book highlights the formative years of the college, the many years of developing a reputation for high quality professional training of veterinarians, and the gradual expansion of original investigations into the eminent research programs of today.

That third stage was developed while balancing the three major responsibilities of a land-grant university: teaching, research, and service. The period also transformed the college from an institution serving primarily the state of Washington to one leading a cooperative regional program, the Washington-

Oregon-Idaho Regional Program in Veterinary Medical Education (WOI). Five departments were consolidated into three and the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (WADDL) was established. A commitment to the criteria by which colleges of veterinary medicine are nationally accredited guided our plans and programs.

This centennial book is not meant to provide a detailed account of our history, but to highlight events and achievements that had a significant impact in shaping the first hundred years of the college. It also recognizes some of the many individuals who contributed to the progress, traditions, innovations, and reputation of the college.

The story reflects the pride we all feel in being associated with this institution and serving the varied publics and animals benefiting from our programs. Our college has enjoyed an unusually fond and productive relationship with its alumni, whose numbers since 1899 now exceed 3,500. We extend our most sincere thanks to the alumni and friends, who share the history of the college, for their never-failing interest and their faithful and strong support. I feel honored and privileged to have had the opportunity to serve the college during its last decade before the centennial.

While revisiting the college's historic past, the centennial anniversary is also an appropriate time to look at the future. This book presents glimpses of new developments and initiatives to serve society in the twenty-first century. Strong traditions of successfully meeting challenges add to the

college's ability to respond quickly, effectively, and positively to new opportunities and changing environments. A flexible, modern curriculum coupled with outstanding research, diagnostic and treatment facilities and equipment, and competent, dedicated faculty, staff, and students make the future bright for veterinary medicine at Washington State University.

Our students represent the college in an excellent manner at the National Board and Clinical Competency Examinations and they increasingly and effectively participate in organized veterinary medicine at local, state, and national levels. During the past decade, they have competed successfully at educational events organized by the Student American Veterinary Medical Association (SAVMA). Thanks to their outstanding efforts, the SAVMA Symposium, a national gathering of nearly 900 veterinary students, will be hosted by our college in 1999—an exciting part of the centennial celebration.

From its humble beginnings in 1899, the College of Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University has grown to an institution that is recognized as one of the major forces in veterinary medical education and research in the United States. The coming generation of WSU veterinarians has an optimistic outlook, a broad view of the future, and good concepts and values passed on from the generations who helped build this college. The fifth oldest veterinary college in the United States can look forward to celebrating its centennial year with joy, satisfaction, and pride.

Borje K. Gustafsson, March 1998



THE CARING CALL

LAST MESSAGE
WVA CHRISTMAS 1940-1942

WVA IS COMPOSED OF A GROUP OF
WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES WHOSE
MEMBERSHIP IS

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY ASSOCIATION (WVA)

IN SERVICE TO THE
UNITED STATES ARMY
AND NAVY
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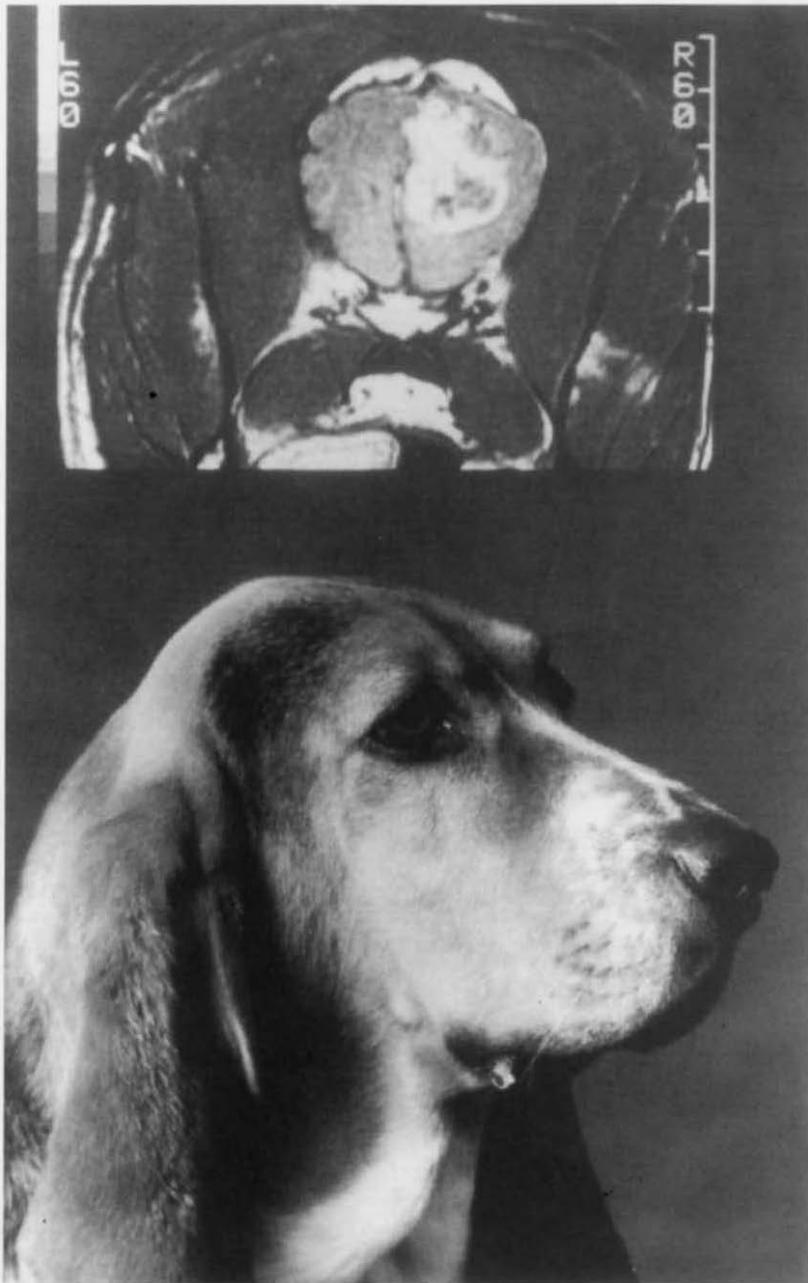
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INTRODUCTION



IT IS A BRONZE SCULPTURE, BEGINNING TO ACQUIRE A GRAY-GREEN PATINA AFTER NEARLY A DECADE OF EXPOSURE TO THE PALOUSE SEASONS. It stands on the lawn of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University, a gift for the university's centennial in 1990.

Three figures form a tableau. On one side is a calf, ears forward, expectant, cradled in the arms of a farm boy in baggy overalls, his face a mask of concern. On the other side stands a veterinarian, his medical bag at his feet open to display the pills and vials that were veterinary medicine's armory against disease more than a half-century ago. The knees of his pants are bunched around tall Wellington boots. His open-neck shirt with a pen in the pocket and his



flat cap belie any notion of pretense. They and the farm boy's overalls mark these two as simple characters, without artifice.

The veterinarian's extended hand grips an intravenous bottle with a tube running to the calf's neck. On the veterinarian's face is a look of concentration that hints at awe—a man profoundly affected by his ability to offer aid. His face, clothes, and gear mark him as old enough to remember when veterinary medicine was in its infancy in Washington and young enough to participate in its first real years as a medical profession.

In the buildings behind this sculpture, Washington State University's College of Veterinary Medicine is now at the apex of a century of growth. Nuclear medicine and microsurgery are practiced daily. Virus studies promise to enhance both animal well-being and public health, not only in this country but worldwide. And the power of the bond between people and companion animals is being explored and honored.

It all stands on a foundation depicted by that sculpture, the relationship of veterinary medicine, agriculture, and the animal sciences born of the founding of land grant institutions nationwide.

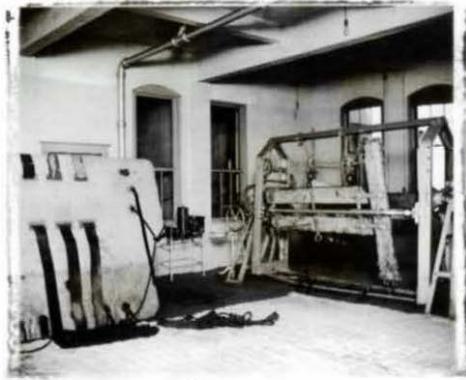
"We are faithful to the culture, concepts, and philosophies that guided our predecessors. The future of our college is in assuming an even larger and more innovative role in veterinary medical education," said Dr. Borje Gustafsson, dean of the college from 1988 to 1998. Here is the story of the first century of that college.





SECTION ONE

THE BEGINNING





CHAPTER 1

THE EARLY YEARS



FROM WASHINGTON'S TERRITORIAL BEGINNING IN 1853 UNTIL 1891, VETERINARY MEDICINE, such as it was, was not regulated. It consisted primarily of the experiences of centuries of European husbandry and Native American healing traditions. The Morrill Act of 1862, otherwise known as the College Land Grant Bill, created universities that specified veterinary art among the major subjects to be taught, reflecting the nation's reliance upon agriculture and horse power. On December 1, 1890, seven months after Washington House Bill 90 creating the State Agricultural College and School of Science at Pullman was signed into law, the Board of Regents established a Chair of Veterinary Science, one of the seven original academic departments at what is now



Dean Sofus B. Nelson

Washington State University. On January 13, 1892, Dr. Charles E. Munn, a veterinarian and brother-in-law of school president George Lilley, filled the chair and became one of the institution's first six faculty members. Soon, physiology and zoology were added to his teaching duties.

It was a hopeful beginning but, unfortunately, a false start. A political storm chased Lilley from office in 1893. Dr. Munn was swept up in the tide. The Chair of Veterinary Science was abolished and Dr. Munn was given five days' notice. Two years later, the Legislature tried again, creating the office of State Veterinarian and specifying that the individual also be the Professor of Veterinary Science and a member of the State Board of Health. Dr. Sofus B. Nelson, a Denmark native and Iowa State College graduate who had done postgraduate work at the Royal Academy in Copenhagen and was practicing in Spokane, filled the position. He established a curriculum designed to supplement agriculture courses or provide pre-professional training for students planning to transfer to other schools to complete a veterinary degree.

If the courtly tone of his official correspondence is any indication, Dr. Nelson must have presided over classroom, clinic, and college with Victorian rigidity. In 1905, commenting on a proposed remodeling



Charles S. Philips '02

project, he wrote, "Along the west wall I would suggest that a small amphitheater, probably four seats, quite straight, should be erected." Photos of the time showed students always in suits and sitting in classrooms in attitudes of strict attention. Dr. Nelson himself continued to wear starched collars and sport a moustache of varying luxuriance long after fashion dictated otherwise.

In November 1895, the veterinary program acquired the first building dedicated solely to its use when the regents authorized President Enoch A. Bryan "to have a shed constructed at the south end of the armory for the veterinary department. The cost not to exceed \$60."

The official birth of today's College of Veterinary Medicine occurred in September 1899, when the School of Veterinary Science was made a major division and admitted its first class of three students to a three-year professional program. Applicants were expected to have preliminary training equivalent to that required for admission to the freshman class plus one year of Latin. Those requirements were regularly breached, however, if a candidate had completed at least two years of high school and had satisfied the Latin requirement.

Two of the original three students comprised the first graduating class in 1902, Drs. Charles S. Philips and John W. Woods. In 1907, Dr. Philips was issued the fourth veterinary medical license in Washington. The



John Woods '02

examining committee held the first three. In 1953, Dr. Philips was named the college's first alumnus of the year. He died in 1974 at the age of 96. His family enjoyed a long relationship with the college as both his son, Stanley, in 1934, and grandson, Douglas, in 1958, earned veterinary degrees.

The intimate size of the school in its early years is almost unimaginable now. In 1904, Dean Nelson reported to President Bryan, "The outlook for students for the next year is bright; there are two applicants from Spokane, one from Sprague, one from Medical Lake, one from Seattle, one from White Salmon, and two possible candidates from the present preparatory department." It was a far cry from the late 1970s, when nearly 800 applicants vied for fewer than 100 places in an entering class, and from the 16 to 1 ratio between applications and acceptances that existed through the 1990s when computerized application made it so much easier for many potential students to apply.





Dr. Charles Frazier (left), Dudley Clark '05, Arthur Damman '05, and William Cummings '05, Science Hall, 1902

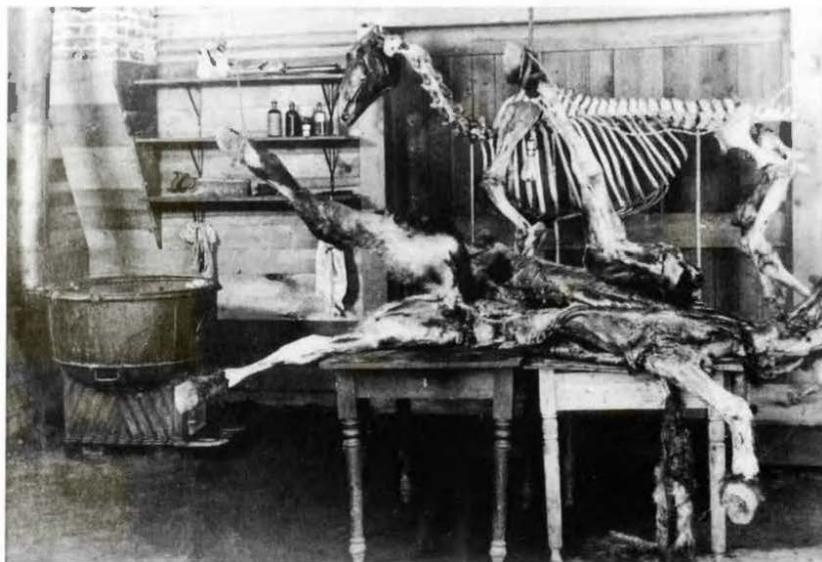
CHAPTER 2

ESTABLISHING CREDIBILITY



WSU IS THE FIFTH-OLDEST SURVIVING VETERINARY SCHOOL IN THE COUNTRY AND THE SEVENTH OLDEST IN NORTH AMERICA. At the time of its creation, the nation still looked to private veterinary schools to provide the majority of its animal care professionals. Between 1852 and 1930, approximately 39 such veterinary colleges opened throughout the country. Many were simply diploma mills, though, and by 1921 only three remained in operation. Washington State was a leader in bringing academic rigor to the profession. It was the first school to require a high school diploma for admission and the first to develop a four-year curriculum.

The veterinary school at the private University of Pennsylvania, which opened in 1884, was founded on the model of a medical school. In contrast, the veterinary colleges at universities created by the Morrill Act were largely extensions of agricultural sciences and the evolution to medical science was one of the dominant themes of the development of the profession in this country. Besides efforts to develop a reliable test for bovine tuberculosis, for example, early research at WSC's veterinary college included attempts to control ground squirrels.



Anatomy Laboratory, Science Hall

There was an informal air to research then. One of Dean Nelson's reports on the college's research activities was typed on the back of several sheets of Washington Agricultural College and School of Science stationery.

Washington State College ambitiously embraced its Morrill Act

mandate. By 1910, the graduating class numbered 13 and the veterinary profession was beginning to make itself felt in Washington. In his annual report for 1907-08, Dean Nelson noted, "The clinical material presented has not been quite as plentiful as in former years, because of the fact that



Science Hall

in the neighboring towns both graduate veterinarians and non-graduated have located who have naturally obtained their share of the practice and thus have made some inroads upon the college clinic. However, the variety of cases has been very good.”

A notable step in the formation of veterinary science as a profession was taken in 1905, when a four-year curriculum leading to a Bachelor of Science degree was introduced. The original three-year track and the new four-year course were taught simultaneously until the former was

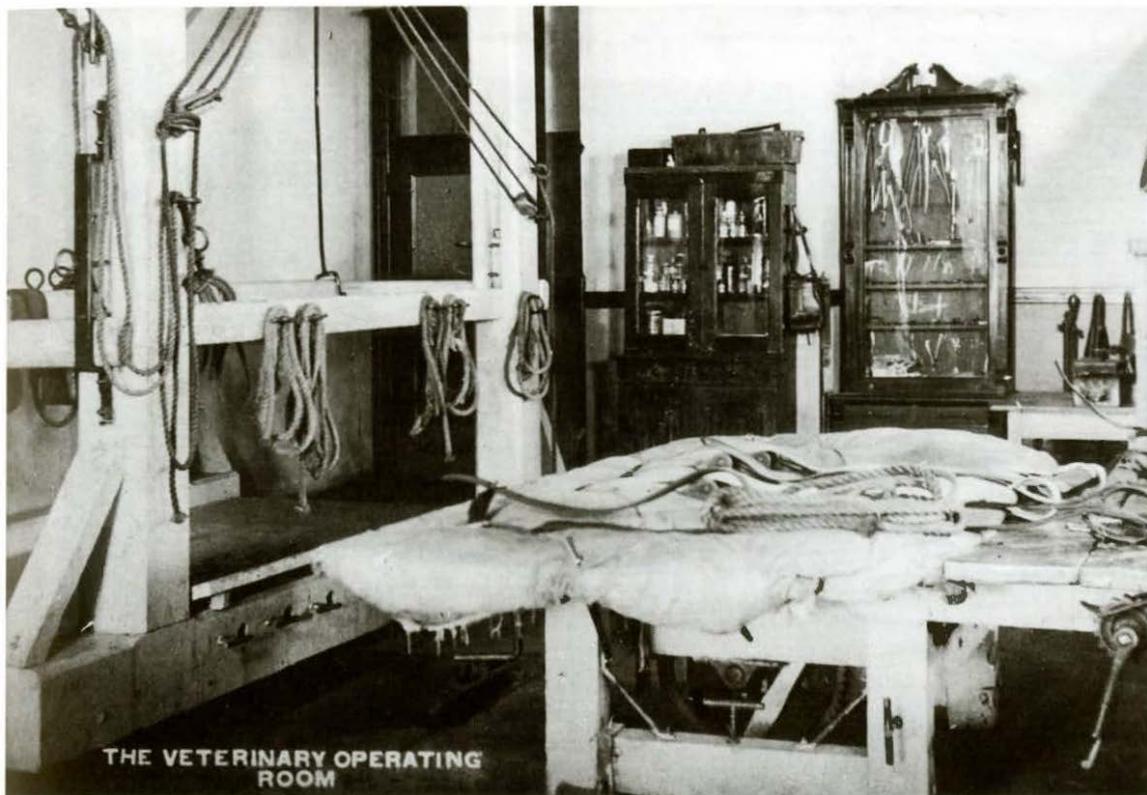
abolished in 1917. In his 1913 annual report, Dr. Nelson had commented, “Without doubt, it will only be a few years until nearly every veterinary college will be offering only four-year courses. There is a wave passing over the United States relative to the betterment of veterinary education.”

According to Dr. Nelson’s correspondence with WSC President Enoch A. Bryan, there was a public perception that graduates of the three-year course were inferior to those of the four-year course. That concern might also have reflected the first stirrings of the philosophical shift that veterinary care was more allied with medicine than with agriculture.

Dr. Nelson, in a lengthy feature article on WSC veterinary education in the February 20, 1910, *Spokesman-Review*, summed up the state of the profession in that era:

“It is only during the last 15 or 20 years that the science of veterinary medicine has progressed in rapid strides from the old-fashioned neighborhood ‘horse’ or ‘cow’ doctor up to the present scientifically and practically trained veterinarian. Probably none of the professions have made more wonderful and rapid strides than the veterinary profession—not because they have gone any higher, but because they had to begin at a lower basis.”





Science Hall



CHAPTER 3

T R A D I T I O N S



ITS SIZE AND PERHAPS THE NATURE OF THE CURRICULUM TENDED TO SET THE VETERINARY SCHOOL apart from the rest of what was then the State College of Washington. Unique traditions arose. Notable among them were the Vet-Pharmic football game and the Hobo Dance. In an era when there were few social outlets, the release they provided was vital, and they loomed huge in the legend and lore of the college for decades.

The Vet-Pharmic game between veterinary and pharmacy students began in 1907 and was contested annually for fifty years. Participants were outfitted in gear from the athletic department, and the games drew fervid fan interest until, ironically, advances in protective football equipment made them too

HORSE BUTCHERS

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Calling All Horse Butchers!

Calling All Vets...

"We, the men of the noble profession of Pharmacy do challenge that mob of Pseudo-scientists, those occupants of that foul gas chamber, known to some laymen as the Vet Shack, to a game of football on the Practice Field, Saturday, October 24, 1942, at 10:00 A.M.

Conditions to Apply:

1. No man shall be allowed to play who has previously earned a letter or a numeral in football at any other college or university.
2. No sleeves shall be rolled up for any purpose.
3. A roster should be submitted so that no experimental animals from the barns may be substituted.
4. No Pre-vets

Signed and Sealed this 14th day of October,
nineteen hundred and forty-two.

THE PHARMICS

R.S.V.P.

dangerous. The students' athletic enthusiasm supported by truly functional headgear and shoulder pads sent the risk of injury soaring. That risk was likely increased, as well, by the fact that the bucket from which players refreshed themselves during the game usually contained not water but a potent alcohol concoction. Another anecdote in Vet-Pharmic game lore had veterinary students providing half-time entertainment by galloping equine patients from the veterinary clinic around the track at Rogers Field.

In all those years, the Pharmics were said to have won only three or four games. Basketball games eventually replaced the football games, but basketball lacked the same appeal and the competition disappeared in the 1960s. The Pharmics did better in basketball, but the Vets didn't always take their losses gracefully. After the Pharmics won

the 1961 game by two points in the last four seconds, "Coach" Bill Dickson, who doubled as a physiology professor, was hanged in effigy outside Wegner Hall.

For the Hobo Dance, male students grew beards in honor of the affair's namesakes. Women dressed in burlap skirts and patched, ragged pants. A "hobo hut" constructed of cardboard, scrap lumber, and similar scrounged material that suggested the vagabond life was traditionally the focus of decorations. The dance was held at various Pullman locations, such as the old Washington Hotel and the National Guard Armory.



Veterinary students had ready access to alcohol in the college and, indeed, sympathetic faculty may have left labs unattended at appropriate times so students could purloin the most necessary ingredient of their Hobo Dance punch. The merrymaking frequently lasted until the next day. On one notable occasion, a camel borrowed from an itinerant Passion Play troupe was taken to the Hobo Dance at the National Guard Armory in downtown Pullman. At the armory, it had blood drawn to settle a bet between a couple of students about the composition and characteristics of camel blood.

The roguish Hobo Dance tradition ended in 1957 after a raucous celebration, excessive even by the standards of the Hobo Dance, left university officials concerned for the safety of the students.

Through the years, some veterinary students participated in intercollegiate sports. Among WSC's boxers were Roy Hostetler, Class of 1939, and Max Nicholls and Bobby Bates, Class of 1949. Orland Soave and Francis McArthur, Class of September 1944, were members of the Cougar tennis team. Dick Ott, Class of 1945, played freshman football and Burgess Bauder, Class of 1970, was on the varsity football team while he was in veterinary school. Bobby Rennick, Class of 1945, played varsity baseball and basketball. Ray Cranston, Rennick's classmate, was also his baseball teammate. Rolla Sexauer, another 1945 WSC veterinary alumnus, was a Cougar fencer. John Gorham, Class of 1946, played freshman basketball.

In 1949, the first Junior Review, a lighthearted series of skits and musical revues lampooning officials, was presented to the veterinary faculty and students. Dr. Frank K. Bracken, a well-known member of the clinic faculty for more than three decades after World War II, was the subject of one such roasting after a cow he was dehorning with a noisy electric saw tossed its head, causing Dr. Bracken to inadvertently sever its ear. The event was memorialized in a skit in which the ear, encased in plastic, was presented to him while bull fighting music played backstage.

That embarrassing incident notwithstanding, Dr. Bracken was recognized as a skillful clinician and an excellent teacher. He was an unprecedented four-time recipient of the coveted Carl J. Norden Distinguished Teacher Award.

After the Second World War, the college was becoming a larger institution, but with a faculty of fewer than 30, it was still small enough to main-

tain its clubby atmosphere. A veterinary faculty wives' club met regularly from the early 1950s through the 1970s. Its purpose, according to its constitution, was to promote fellowship and sociability among its members and student wives. Among its officers was a Sunshine Chairman, responsible for sending gifts to new parents, flowers to those in the hospital, and condolences to families who had lost members. In June of 1979, the club contributed meals for several days to a faculty family whose four-year-old son had been drowned.

Another interesting aspect of student life in the 1950s was an unaccountable musical talent among veterinary students. In 1955, under the direction of George H. Stabenfeldt, Class of 1956, the junior class of veterinary students entered the annual campus songfest. They won the men's division, but one wonders how many in the audience realized the obstetrical origins of the title of the winning original score, "Dystocia." The choir, expanded to include veterinary students from all four classes, won the men's division every year after that until they retired their second trophy in 1960. Choir directors who followed George Stabenfeldt included Jack G. Stevens, Class of 1957; Douglas P. Philips, Class of 1958; Mark C. Keyes, Class of 1959; and Joseph J. Ladley, Class of 1964.



Veterinary Choir, 1959

Having become ineligible for further competition in the men's division, the musical veterinary students teamed with the chorus from a women's dormitory, Wilmer Hall, to win the mixed division of the annual songfest in 1961. The songfest's organizers, probably with visions of an unending parade of trophies headed to the veterinary school, finally barred the veterinarians from any further competition, claiming the songfest was a contest solely for living groups.

The 1960s marked the passing of one of the college's most fondly remembered characters, Rudy the fistulated steer. A 1,900-pound cross-bred Guernsey, Rudy was purchased as a calf in 1950. He and another calf, Adolph, each had a rumen fistula ("window") created in his side. Adolph died in 1957, but Rudy was often the main attraction at veterinary open houses and was viewed by generations of elementary school students, Future Farmers, 4-Hers, and others on guided tours.

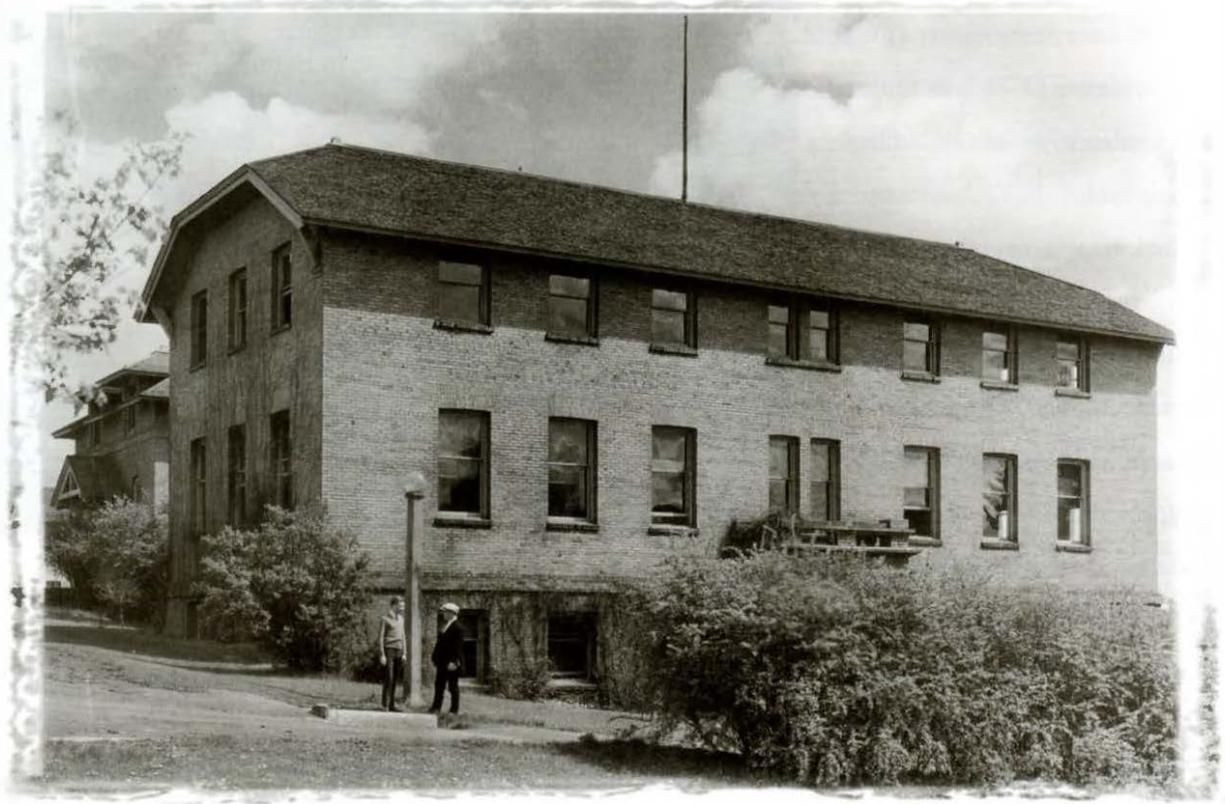
Rudy was so healthy he aided in the well-being of other cattle, according to Dr. Paul Klavano, Class of September 1944 and former chairman of the Department of Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology. "Whenever an animal had a severe upset stomach, we would transfer some of (Rudy's) rumen contents to the sick animal. It had such healing power that it became known around the veterinary college as Rudy juice. He was about as gentle as an animal could be and was never irritable even in his old age. We didn't worry about him getting out because when he did, he wouldn't wander past the limits of campus. We usually found him over at another barn visiting with the animals."

Parts of Rudy's carcass and bone structure were preserved for anatomy classes. "He left us a fine set of ulcers to study," Dr. Klavano said.

The veterinary profession sprang from equine medicine, and draft horses have always had a presence in the college. From the school's earliest decades when they provided the bulk of the clinical caseload, draft horses also

had a utilitarian function within the college. They pulled the horse ambulance. More recently they've drawn wagons for campus tours. Veterinary students of the 1970s remember one such animal fondly. The Robbie Club was formed then to take care of the college's Clydesdale. Robbie's successor, Carpathian, recently retired, and Laddy, a four-year-old Belgian, have maintained the college's tie to big horses.





Veterinary Building ["Vet Shack"], now the Administration Annex

CHAPTER 4

A NEW AGE Dawns



IN 1907, WASHINGTON'S FIRST VETERINARY PRACTICE ACT WAS SIGNED INTO LAW. All graduate veterinarians were required to show proof of graduation. Non-graduates who had practiced as veterinarians in the state for at least 10 years were grandfathered in, and graduates of human medical schools could also become licensed veterinarians simply by showing proof of graduation.

In its earliest days, the entire veterinary school could attend an outcall to a sick horse on a farm near Pullman in a three-person hack. Today, the reach of WSU veterinarians is global. The school's reach expanded even in its first decade when a two-story brick building was built in Spokane as a satellite teaching hospital in 1908-09 at the same time a new three-story veterinary science

building was built on the Pullman campus. For the next three years, Dean Nelson was permitted to live in Spokane and divide his time between there and Pullman. Two railroads and an electric interurban line serving traffic between Pullman and Spokane made travel feasible.

The new building on the Pullman campus, officially designated the Veterinary Building, was known somewhat affectionately as the “*Vet Shack*.”



It housed the hospital, teaching laboratories for anatomy, physiology, pharmacology and pathology, the dean’s office, and living quarters for student interns. Still a familiar campus landmark, it survives today after extensive remodeling as the Administration Annex. Dr. Paul Klavano, who lived in the “*Vet Shack*” during its last summer as such, claimed that ridding the building

of its accumulated medicinal and animal odors was a miracle of modern technology.

The Spokane hospital, officially Hospital Number 2, was set up to offer clinical instruction to seniors in the four-year program. The idea was to provide a wider array of cases than they were likely to see in Pullman. In a financial arrangement that would raise eyebrows today, Hospital Number 2 was owned by Dean Nelson and leased to the college.



Pathology Laboratory, c. 1910

“The lame, the halt, and the sick of Spokane dog and cat circles find ease for pain and balm for wounds at the Veterinary Hospital of the Washington State College,” wrote the *Spokesman-Review* in 1910. A college bulletin from 1919 pointed out, “The packing houses and dairies offer excellent means for the student to become familiar with the practical aspects of meat, milk, and dairy inspection.”

In 1922, the year before it closed, approximately 1,000 animals were treated at Hospital Number 2, compared to some 500 in Pullman. The breakdown in Pullman that year was approximately 80 percent horses and 20 percent cattle, while in Spokane “small animals and cattle make up a



considerable percentage of the clinic material,” according to Dean Earl E. Wegner’s annual report.

The decade 1910-20 in significant ways ushered in the 20th century for the veterinary college. America fought a world war and the machine age sounded the death knell for the draft horse, which had been the mainstay of veterinary medicine since its inception. Washington’s largest city became a metropolis. In 1896, Seattle had only about 55,000 residents. As a staging area for the Klondike Gold Rush, it attracted thousands, and by 1910, the population had grown to 237,000. The existence of a major city was an impetus to development and population growth statewide.

When this era opened, veterinary medicine was largely equine medicine and surgery. Horses were the engine of agriculture for the grain farming of the Inland Northwest. Early clinic reports showed the distribution of practice. The hospital opened October

20, 1899. By June 1, 1900, 105 animals had been presented for treatment: 91 horses, six dogs, five swine, and three cattle. In 1903-04, the college clinic treated 332 horses, 340 cattle, 16 dogs, five pigs, and one sheep.

Early in the decade, the expanding sophistication and attendant expense of veterinary medicine was marked several ways. On April 6, 1911, Dean Nelson recommended to the regents the school’s first ever fee schedule:

“For the hospital at Pullman, 60¢ per day for feed and care. 50¢ for floating horses’ teeth. All other treatments in the hospital to be free. Drugs to be charged for at as near cost as possible. At Hospital No. 2 in Spokane, 75¢ per day for feed and care... in single stalls \$1... in box stalls and drugs at a reasonable rate... not to destroy or undercharge local veterinarians.” Those fees suggested both the reliance upon equine medicine and surgery and the fact that the number of veterinarians in private practice was expanding along with the state.



Veterinary medicine's role in public health was brought into focus by several events in the middle of the decade. In 1913, the Legislature created Washington's Department of Agriculture. Dr. Harry T. Graves, a veterinarian from the Class of 1910, was named acting commissioner.

On November 13, 1914, two rail cars of cattle en route from Wisconsin to Roy, Washington, arrived in Spokane. They were accompanied by warnings that the animals had been exposed to foot-and-mouth disease in a St. Paul, Minnesota, stockyard. A positive diagnosis was made on

November 16. Within five days, all the cattle had been destroyed and cremated and all holding pens and litter burned. A disease outbreak was avoided.

The school weathered some financial problems, but Dean Wegner noted in his "History of Veterinary Medicine in the State of Washington," "(The) veterinary college enjoyed a very progressive era. Faculty changes were few, and student enrollment and interest were good."

After Ernest O. Holland became WSC president in 1916, the veterinary school was reorganized as the College of Veterinary Science and the three-year course was abolished.

At a small school like WSC, World War I had a major impact. In 1918, Dean Nelson pointed out in his annual report, "The college has labored under war conditions. The decrease in attendance of major students has been over fifty percent, it has had a greater loss than any other veterinary college in our country."

A college newsletter noted, "The college of veterinary science has been called upon to furnish twelve or more veterinarians to enter temporarily the service of the U.S. Bureau of Animal Industries, at Washington D.C., the salaries beginning at \$1,400 per year... It has also been called upon for a number of graduates for the Army Veterinary Officers' Reserve Corps. Applicants are to have the rank of first lieutenant."





CHAPTER 5

THE NELSON ERA ENDS



THE COLLEGE'S HISTORY IS A STORY OF GROWTH FROM A SMALL, MEAGERLY FUNDED SCHOOL STRIVING TO ESTABLISH its relevance to the highly regarded, comprehensive, sophisticated institution it is today. Early on, such simple matters as transportation created immense challenges. In the first decade of the century, college veterinarians and students got around to see cases with "one bay team of six year old mares, one black saddle mare, one two-seated hack, one new buggy." During the World War I years, however, Dean Nelson was pleading with administrators for an automobile.

"I do not wish to seem insistent, yet I feel very deeply that an injury is being done the department if it is not provided with this latest rapid means of



Microbiology Laboratory, c. 1910

transportation, as at present entirely too much time is lost by the slow team travel. Considering that there is not a practicing veterinarian who does not find an automobile indispensable in order to hold his practice, it seems that it may not be quite fair to keep the department working under this hardship of slow transportation in the natural competition with the veterinarians of

Moscow, Colfax, Garfield, and Palouse.”

Also, “The farmers direct that the doctors should come by machine or not at all.”

Dr. Nelson had become the most powerful force in shaping the veterinary profession in Washington. He made his influence felt as dean, state veterinarian, and member of the Washington State Experiment Station staff. Greed to acquire titles did not motivate Dr. Nelson so much as a willingness to take on the endless burdens associated with development of the veterinary profession. In his 1907-08 report, he complained to President Bryan, “The work in the department in connection with the state work is becoming quite heavy for me personally.” He wanted to

replace the house surgeon, Dr. Wallace V. Glaisyer, Class of 1906, with a "more expensive man" who could take on some of the teaching load. Dr. Glaisyer, indeed, resigned at the end of the year.

In 1910, Dr. Nelson asked for a year's leave. "By next September I have been with the department 16 years and in that time I have practically had no vacation. All the vacation that has been granted me, or taken by me, has always been mixed with more or less work for the department or for the state." When he resigned as state veterinarian in 1913, his records indicated he had examined 149,182 animals, prompting criticism from historian Patrick Murdock that, "Nelson's report... leaves a question as to how he did anything other than his State Veterinarian's work."

In 1919, Dr. Nelson resigned as dean to accept an appointment by WSC President E.O. Holland as Director of the Agriculture Extension Service.

Despite his great stature as a veterinary medicine pioneer, Dr. Nelson's career concluded unhappily. In 1929, he boldly reported that "the varied services of the Agricultural Extension Service had since 1919 increased the income of the farmers of the state by \$35,000, not counting the cumulative effects of better farming practices." A year later, however, President Holland was convinced by politicians angry at Dr. Nelson's efficient manner in carrying out his administrative philosophy at Agricultural Extension that Dr. Nelson was out of favor with state agricultural groups and thus was expendable. Disconsolate, feeling he had been disgraced by

Holland, Dr. Nelson refused all honors suggested by the president upon his retirement in 1930. Dr. Nelson died in 1931. A memorial fund was established in his name in 1935.



Physiology Lab, c. 1910

The conclusion of Dr. Nelson's academic career should not undercut the obvious satisfaction he enjoyed during the great majority of it. Though the school was small and the profession young, the collegial nature of the enterprise Dr. Nelson presided over in his career as veterinary dean is seen in his annual report in 1906-07. After students had remodeled a dissecting room he wrote, "I cannot too highly bring to your attention this exhibition

of this right spirit of a body of students to assist in advancing the interests of the college."

In 1915, Dr. Nelson reported, "Although it is not directly pertaining to the work of the department, yet I believe it would be of interest if I might report that practically all of the graduates are doing very well, both financially and as far as their actual worth to the community in which they have located is concerned."

Dr. Nelson's enthusiasm had propelled early if largely unsuccessful research in the school. A list of studies from the era included diagnostic

testing, transmission and control of tuberculosis, "poison strip" areas between summer and winter sheep range, glanders in horses, effect of fat on the body temperatures of horses, cerebrospinal meningitis in horses, forage and moldy straw poisoning, hairless and short-lived pigs in the Wenatchee area, and, as noted, control of ground squirrels. Decades would pass before Drs. Donald Cordy and John Gorham discovered the rickettsia causing salmon poisoning and before the College of Veterinary Medicine could boast a truly meaningful research breakthrough, and decades beyond that before the college reached its current stature as a research institution attracting more than \$5 million in extramural research grants and contracts annually.





Veterinary Faculty, January 1929. G. W. McNutt, J. E. McCoy, H. A. Smith, N. G. Covington, and E. E. Wegner

CHAPTER 6

EARL E. WEGNER & JOHN E. MCCOY



ONE OF THE COLLEGE'S MOST IMPORTANT ALUMNI, EARL E. WEGNER, graduated in 1908. He joined the faculty a year after receiving his degree and remained until 1950. When Dr. Nelson resigned as dean in 1919, Dr. Wegner became vice dean and two years later, he was elevated to dean. He served as dean from 1921 to 1947.

Dr. Wegner guided the college through some of its most difficult but most formative years. He took his cue from Dr. Nelson and endeavored to establish veterinary medicine as a true medical profession. He was a prolific historian with an eye for what had been created in Pullman and recorded the veterinary school's early years and his own 28-year administration. Later in his tenure, he was also the force behind significant upgrading of facilities.



Dean Earl E. Wegner

From his earliest student picture and throughout his career, Dr. Wegner displayed a regal bearing. Distinguished looking, with deep set, dark eyes and with his mouth tightened into a thin line, he managed to look older than his years. He grew up on a livestock ranch near Cheney. After earning his DVM in 1908, he practiced for a few months in Colville, but Dr. Wegner was a man made for institutions. He joined the meat inspection service of the U.S. Bureau of Animal Industry in the fall of 1908 in Portland. In 1909, he was appointed assistant professor of anatomy and surgery at Washington State. Dr. Wegner was also president of the Washington State Veterinary Medical Association in 1916, and from 1934 to 1940, he represented Washington in the American Veterinary Medical Association's House of Representatives. From 1945 to 1950, he represented the Seventh Executive Board District of the AVMA.

Dr. Wegner's administrative talents also took a civic bent. From 1924 to 1926, he served on the Pullman City Council, and from 1926 to 1930, he was mayor, which must have made him one of the most formidable men in the Palouse. After he retired from teaching, the productive Dr. Wegner moved to Seattle and returned to equine practice.

For much of his career, Dr. Wegner shared the veterinary college with another colossus, Dr. John E. McCoy. What Dr. Wegner envisioned for veterinary medicine from the abstract perspective of a college administrator, Dr. McCoy was practicing on the ground. Dr. McCoy had surpassing skill and breadth as a clinician and was acclaimed for his diagnostic abil-



ity. In the classroom, Dr. Wegner taught surgery and Dr. McCoy taught medicine and obstetrics.

Whenever Dr. McCoy performed a difficult equine surgery, Dr. Wegner was almost sure to repeat the procedure at the first opportunity to draw the spotlight to his own clinical skill. For his part, Dr. McCoy was secure in his own abilities and apparently found little need to one-up Dr. Wegner.

Dr. J. E. McCoy (left) and
A.C. Schneider '45



Dean John E. McCoy

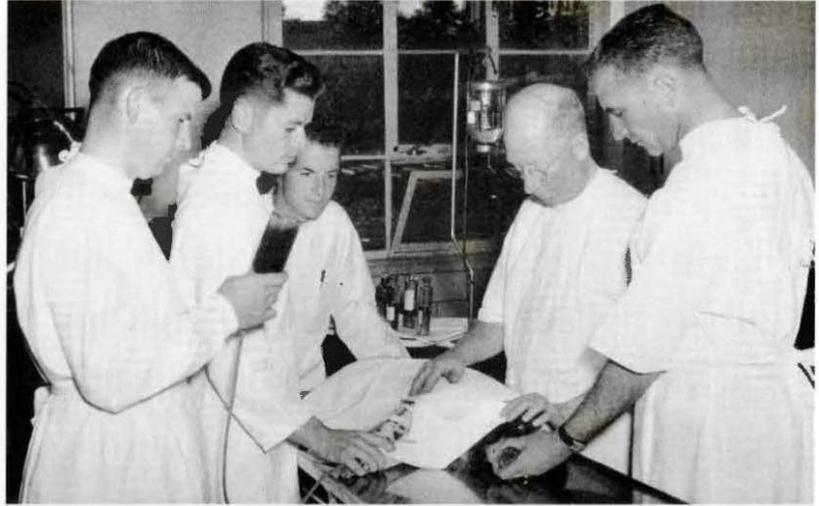
Dr. McCoy graduated in 1909 from Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences (now Kansas State University) and practiced in Kansas and Idaho before coming to Pullman. College records show that he had an uninterrupted faculty appointment from 1923 to 1952. But in 1933-34, he was president and secretary of the Alaska Exploration and Mining Company. In 1934, when the entire college faculty consisted of five people, there were two clinicians on staff, Drs. McCoy and William J. Pistor, Class of 1926. Dr. McCoy apparently took a leave of absence that year to go gold mining.

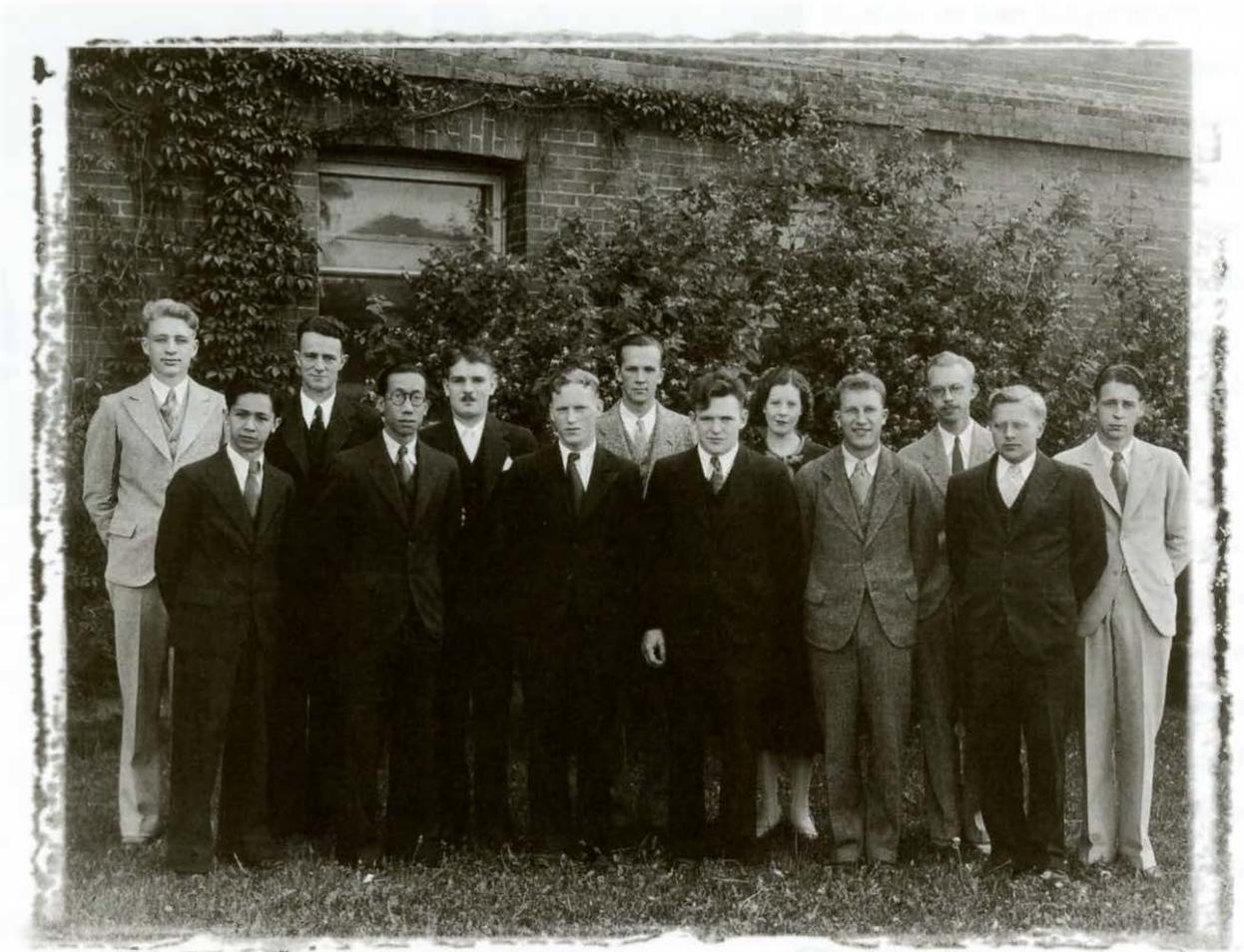
Generations of veterinarians learned their craft studying with the unprepossessing, balding, double-chinned man. Although he is seldom remembered as a researcher, Dr. McCoy often had one or two projects underway. In 1930, for example, he and Dr. George W. McNutt introduced bulla osteotomy, an operation to drain infections of the middle ear in dogs. In 1942, Dr. McCoy and his students were credited with developing a successful animal blood bank that attracted worldwide attention.

Shortly before his death, the 1958 edition of *Western Veterinarian*, an annual research journal and yearbook produced by students at the WSC veterinary college, had been dedicated to Dr. McCoy. Appreciative editors noted, "During his stay at WSC there was never a better loved faculty member; his vast knowledge and total dedication to his students put him high in the esteem of faculty and students alike. It was said at one time that if Dr. McCoy could not teach (someone) veterinary medicine it was impossible (for him) to learn."

“McCoy gave students of a whole era the spirit of clinical medicine,” recalled Dr. John R. Gorham, Class of 1946. “McCoy made them practitioners. He just did it. After he died, there was a memorial fund for him. In those days, it was tough to get money. But for him, it just rolled in.”

The John E. McCoy Endowment was established through private gifts from faculty, alumni, and friends. From this endowment, the John E. McCoy Award is made to “an outstanding worker in the field of clinical veterinary medicine.” The first four recipients of the award were Drs. Myron Thom, Class of 1929, in 1961; Sten-Erik Olsson of Sweden in 1963; William R. McGee, Class of 1940, in 1967; and James Archibald of Canada in 1969.





The Class of 1933. Catherine Elizabeth Roberts was the first female veterinary student at WSC.

BREAKTHROUGH DEVELOPMENTS



PIONEERING WORK IN ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY AND RADIOLOGY WERE HALLMARKS OF THE ROARING TWENTIES for the college. Dr. Emerson A. Ehmer, Class of 1918, an aesthetic-looking young man in his school photos with pince nez and the wisp of a moustache, established the first small animal hospital in Seattle. It is still in operation and is known today as the Seattle Emergency Hospital. Dr. Ehmer is internationally famous for his innovations in orthopedic surgery. Not only were they state-of-the-art at the time, many have been adapted to modern procedures. Because of the success of his unilateral “sling-cast” for canine hip injuries, first reported in 1925, almost any flexion bandage of the hind limb is known today as an “Ehmer sling.” The Kirschner-



Emerson A. Ehmer '18

Ehmer half-pin splint, developed in the 1940s, was the standard external skeletal fixation device for a half-century.

Dr. Myron Thom, Class of 1929, was a pioneer in the field of veterinary radiology, both at his small animal hospital and at the Santa Anita Race Track, where he used a portable x-ray unit. Dr. Thom was the first veterinarian in California to use x-ray therapy. In the 1930s, he investigated proper dosage, methods of restraint and anesthesia, and protective measures for human personnel. He received WSU's Distinguished Veterinary Alumnus Award in 1974.

Graduating classes in the college's early decades typically numbered between eight and 12 members, but dipped to three graduates in 1914. Despite the passing of the horse era after World War I, the veterinary profession and enrollment at the college flourished. In 1920, the largest class to that point, 18 individuals graduated. Among them was Dr. Winfred A. Jordan, a transfer student from the recently defunct San Francisco Veterinary College, a private school. Dr. Jordan was not the only San Francisco student to transfer to Washington State to finish his work, but he had one notable distinction from his counterparts. He was the college's first African-American student.

It was 13 more years before the first woman graduated.



Winfred A. Jordan '20



The Class of 1934. Patricia Hanna was the second female veterinary student.

In 1923, the Spokane Hospital closed and all teaching was moved back to Pullman. Enrollment fluctuated wildly. There were only four graduates a year from 1922 to 1925. That fell to three in 1926 and two in 1927, perhaps reflecting students' concerns about the profession as the draft horse era ended. Midway through the decade, the graduation rate rebounded and reached a high of 22 in 1930.

A significant step in the evolution of the veterinary medical profession in Washington occurred in 1924. That year, the College of Veterinary



Catherine Elizabeth
Roberts '33

Science became the College of Veterinary Medicine, the designation it bears today. The veterinary school made steady, progressive growth through the 1930s, and groundwork was laid for portions of the physical plant that exist today.

Though the country struggled to surmount an economic depression, resourceful veterinary students still found ways to cut costs to remain in college. An alumni magazine of the era reported light-heartedly, "Dr. Coddington has difficulty in keeping pig hearts in the lab for dissection. The batching students prefer them stewed."

The smallest graduating class in this decade numbered only 13 in 1933, but it included Dr. Catherine Elizabeth Roberts, the school's first female graduate. Dr. Roberts also became the first licensed woman veterinarian in California and was among only 12 female veterinarians in the nation at the time. In 1934, the college's second woman graduate, Dr. Patricia Henno, became the second woman veterinarian in California and was the first woman accepted by the Bay Counties Veterinary Medical Association in San Francisco.

Drs. Roberts' and Henno's distinction as the first women graduates seems not to have created great ripples in the college. The college alumni magazine had a couple of lighthearted accounts of Dr. Roberts' early efforts to establish a small animal practice. It did note that, "Since the Veterinary College has taken to teaching the manly profession to the fairer sex, the boys have taken a more professional attitude about their manner of dress." The number of women students remained small, however, and did not

presage the great change that began in the 1970s when the enrollment of women surpassed that of men.

The college looked to its own for its first woman faculty member. Dr. Virginia Whiteley was a member of the Class of September 1944. After her marriage, she joined the college faculty in 1945 as Dr. Virginia Streets and taught clinical medicine until 1949.

Two other notable graduates of the 1930s were Dr. Walter W. Stiern, Class of 1938, and Dr. Birdsall Carle, Class of 1939. Dr. Stiern was a California state senator from 1958 to 1986. He received the WSU Alumni Achievement Award in 1978 and was the College of Veterinary Medicine's commencement speaker in 1986. Dr. Carle was the college's first Rhodes Scholar.

A hallmark of good standing is accreditation by professional peers. The first entity to accredit the college was the Bureau of Animal Industries in the Department of Agriculture. A college bulletin in 1919 reported, "This college, among a few others of its kind in the United States, is given the highest possible standing by the United States Department of Agriculture and is ranked in Class A." The most practical application of that accreditation was that it enabled college graduates to take federal civil service examinations.

In 1932, the American Veterinary Medical Association began accrediting colleges, and Washington State College embarked upon a long and often trying effort to gain and maintain accreditation with this group. Although WSC was immediately accredited, in succeeding decades the

school was seriously challenged to keep improving its physical facilities and to counter intellectual isolation to maintain accreditation, but it has remained in probationary or full accreditation ever since.

In 1935, the veterinary college curriculum was increased to five years. A year later, the first year was separated into a pre-veterinary category outside the professional program to adjust to increased interest in the profession. Enrollment was capped at 40 students.

Veterinary medicine had been organized as a profession in France, where the first veterinary college was founded in Lyon by Claude Bourgelat in 1762. One hundred seventy five years later, Washington State College looked back to Europe for inspiration. In 1937, Dean Wegner spent six months touring the United States and Europe, examining veterinary education facilities. The need for expansion in the college prompted his trek.

Though professionally they were rivals and frequently at odds, Dr. Wegner and Dr. McCoy collaborated on facilities planning. They collected data and drew up plans for two buildings: a classroom and laboratory building for physiology, pharmacology, and pathology and a hospital that would also house the anatomy department. Those facilities, still in use as the college enters its second century, now bear their names.

Even as the country was sliding toward the Second World War, Washington State, the veterinary college, and its alumni enjoyed prosperity. Dr. E.A. Ehmer began working with the Kirschner Manufacturing Company of Vashon, Washington, to develop the famed Kirschner-Ehmer half-pin splint. The Washington Legislature, impressed with the facilities planned

by Drs. Wegner and McCoy, appropriated money. Contracts were let for both buildings in the summer of 1941. Steel and other building materials arrived just before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor spurred the production of war material and created domestic shortages, so construction took place on schedule. However, a slight shortage of materials postponed completion of the third floor of the classroom and laboratory building.

In September of 1942, the Anatomy Department was the first to move into the new buildings, although a coal stove in the gross anatomy lab was the only heat in the clinic building. The Department of Clinics followed in January after building-wide heat was installed. Veterinary students and faculty provided the manpower for the move. It was not without mishap. Dr. Ernest C. McCulloch had his arms full of laboratory equipment when he tripped and fell on a steep, icy slope and slid to the bottom of the hill by Troy Hall.



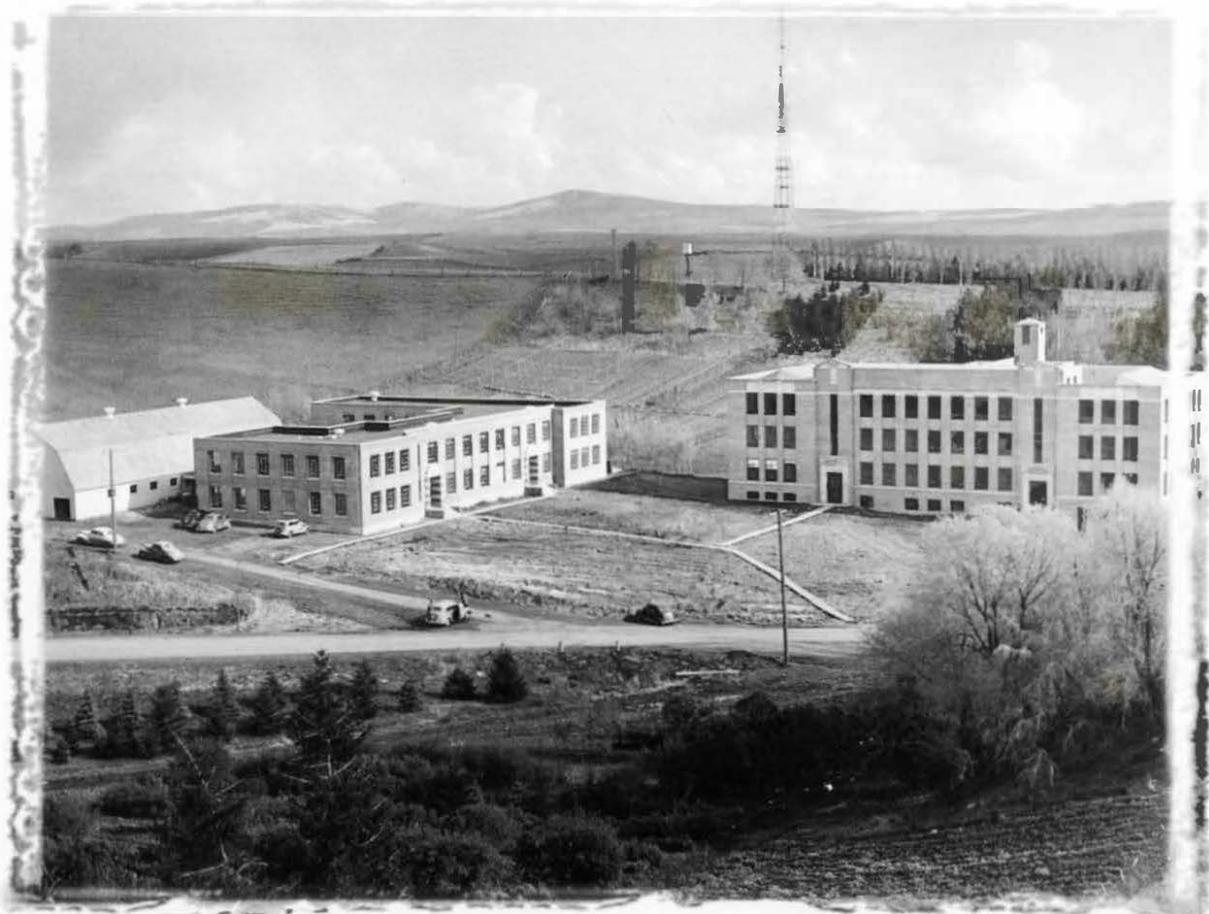


Laying the bricks for McCoy Hall—Architect Stanley Smith (left),
President Ernest O. Holland, and Dean Ernest E. Wegner, September 24, 1941

SECTION TWO

THE MIDDLE YEARS





McCoy Hall (left) and Wegner Hall, c. 1943

CHAPTER 8

RESEARCH TO THE FOREFRONT



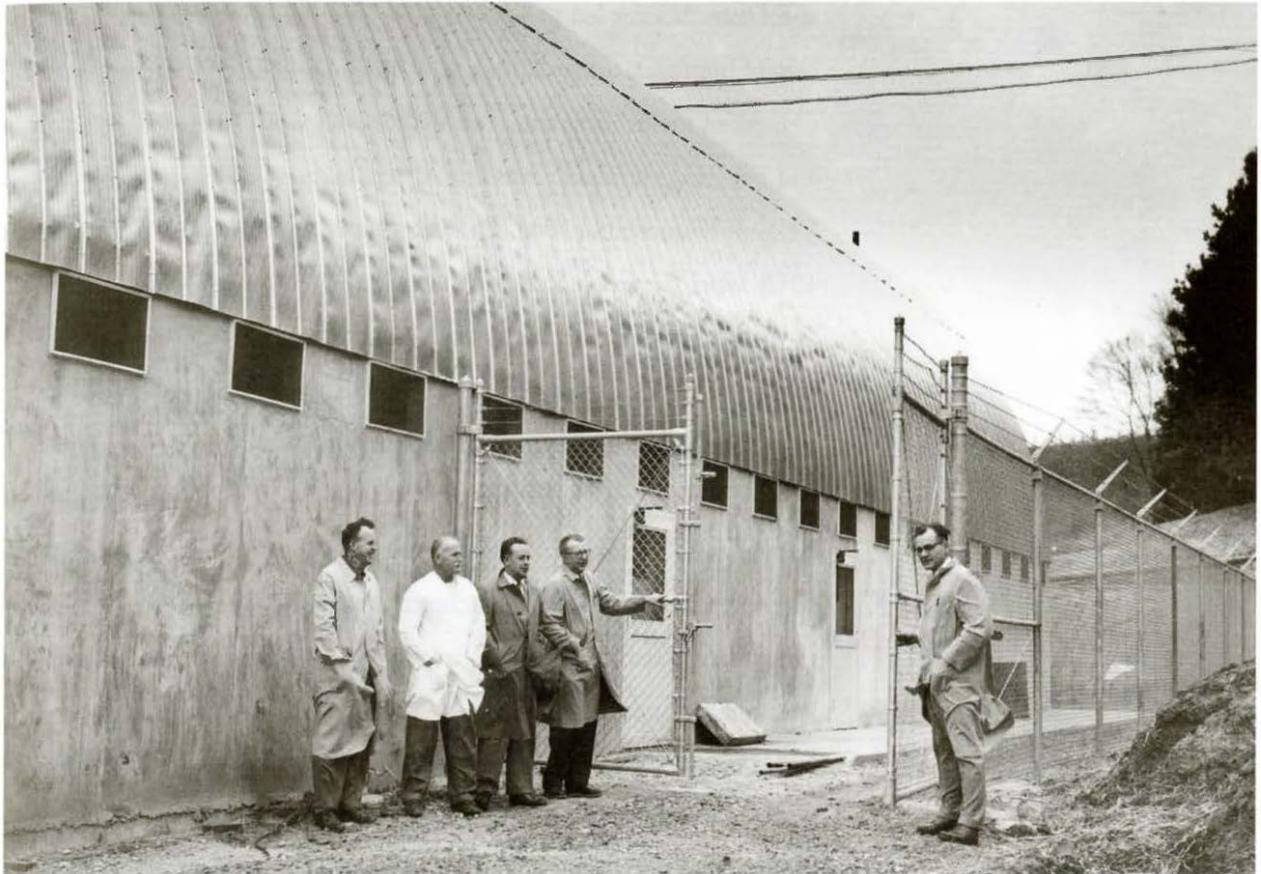
THE HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE IN ITS FIRST CENTURY FALLS INTO THREE ERAS. Dean Sofus B. Nelson defined the veterinary profession in Washington. In the era of Deans Ernest E. Wegner through Dean James A. Henderson, the college was a small, insular institution focused primarily on teaching veterinary practitioners and public health officials. Beginning with Dean Leo K. Bustad and through the administrations of Deans Robert B. Wilson and Borje Gustafsson, the college gained national and international recognition. It is an innovative, comprehensive, sophisticated institution beyond the wildest dreams of its earliest members. The fuel for this expansion has been research and service, and in this

latest era the college has truly become a research institution respected worldwide, while still providing service to the region.

For probably the first two-thirds of its history, research was conducted as an adjunct to teaching and largely at the whim of individual researchers who could pursue whatever lines of inquiry interested them and who could start and stop projects when they felt like it. It was a bold but largely hollow claim by Dr. McCulloch that “our students are taking a definite part in the research projects, and we will be able to furnish some well-trained research men.”

Dr. Ernest C. McCulloch, a bacteriologist who began his career at WSC in 1936, was one of the college’s early scholars. His tenure, though, was highlighted by his eccentricities and finally by his truly macabre sense of humor. He had a habit of drifting to the back of a classroom and lecturing over the backs of his students. On one occasion, Dr. McCulloch was demonstrating a technique for inoculating rabbits with infectious agents. With a row of attentive students ringing him and peering at the rabbit he held on a high table, Dr. McCulloch picked up a fold of skin at the scruff of the rabbit’s neck and carefully inserted a needle. But he inadvertently punctured both sides of the fold and as he depressed the plunger, he sprayed the astonished students with a syringe full of anthrax bacteria.

Late in his career, Dr. McCulloch contracted cancer. Ever the teacher, he had his classes palpate his liver, urging the students to feel the lumps there. When he died, he willed the organ to the veterinary school along



with a note. “If your kids cannot come to Washington State and say they studied under McCulloch, by God, they can say they studied McCulloch.”

Washington State’s first significant veterinary research began with fur animal diseases. The foundation was laid in 1938, again reflecting the college’s land grant service mission. Discussions between J.E. Schillinger, Superintendent of Disease Control for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

Leptospirosis Barn. Frank Bracken (left), Russel Gillespie, Deon Ernest Stone, Leif Ringen, and Sam Kenzy open the new research facility, 1954.

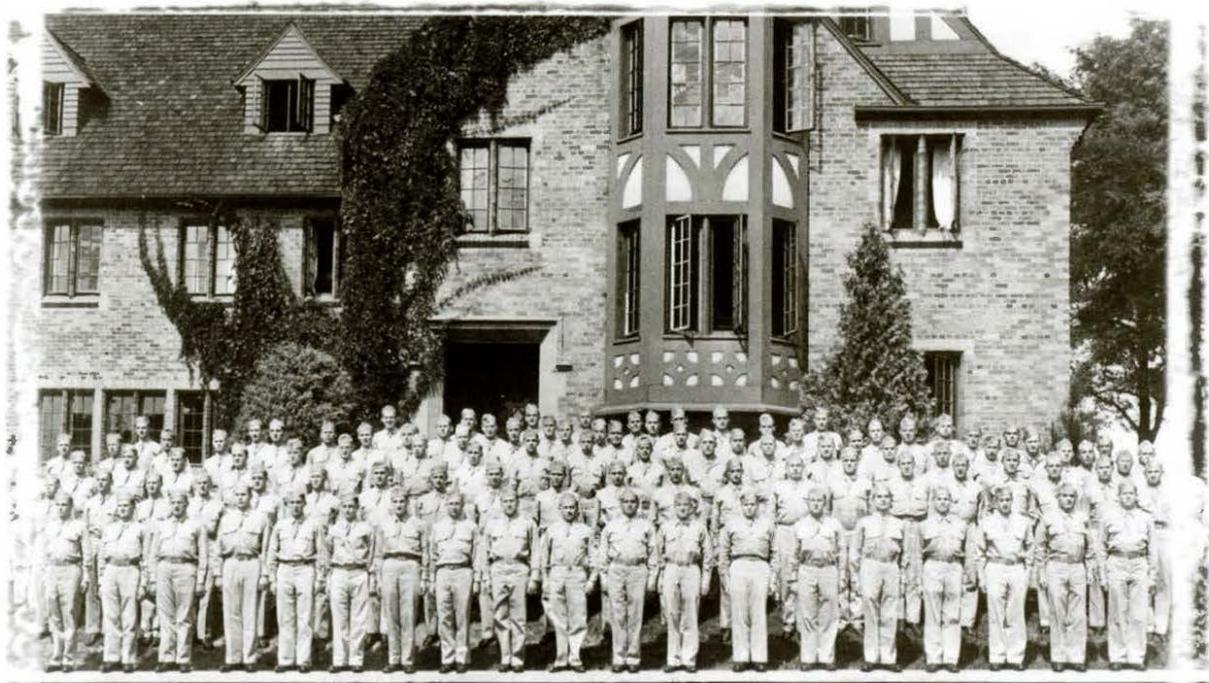
and Dean Wegner led to a cooperative agreement whereby the U.S. Bureau of Biological Survey and the college embarked upon research into the diseases of fur-bearing animals. A laboratory was installed in the college and Dr. F.D. McKenney was its first administrator. He was succeeded by Dr. O.J. Hummon in 1941. Dr. E.R. Quorstrup managed it from 1946 to 1948, when he was succeeded by Dr. John R. Gorham, Class of 1946.

After building one of the college's stellar research reputations over a half-century, Dr. Gorham retired in 1997. His successor was Dr. Donald P. Knowles, also an internationally prominent researcher.

To aid in fur animal research, Dr. Wegner had a mink ranch built on a farm west of Pullman. Horses purchased for mink food were used for surgical exercises before being butchered and boned out. Around 1950, the college purchased the whole farm and converted it to animal quarters. It was sold in the mid-1980s.

Leptospirosis was of particular concern to livestock producers in the 1950s. In an undertaking reminiscent of the efforts of earlier generations of veterinarians to eradicate tuberculosis and brucellosis, the college set out to address the disease. The leptospirosis barn, able to house 50 animals, was completed in 1954. The work with leptospirosis represented some of the college's best research in that era and helped establish the foundation upon which the college's research reputation rests today.





Company "C" of Army Specialized Training Unit No. 3923, 1943

CHAPTER 9

E F F E C T S O F W A R



ALTHOUGH THE COLLEGE WAS ABLE TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW CLASSROOM BUILDING and clinic at the onset of World War II, by the time students and faculty moved in war shortages were beginning to be felt. For the first two years, the laboratories were equipped only with tables constructed by college carpenters. Students scrounged lumber and materials to make coat racks and other furnishings, perhaps providing evidence that Dean Nelson's observation years before about veterinary students and the right spirit remained. In 1944, the governor released funds for furniture and equipment, and regular chemistry benches and fittings replaced the homemade tables.



Veterinary faculty and staff, 1943

The war caused the formation of an unusual military unit, a product of the urgency to mobilize the country and some fuzzy thinking about the needs of the military for veterinarians. Keeping horses healthy had long been a military preoccu-

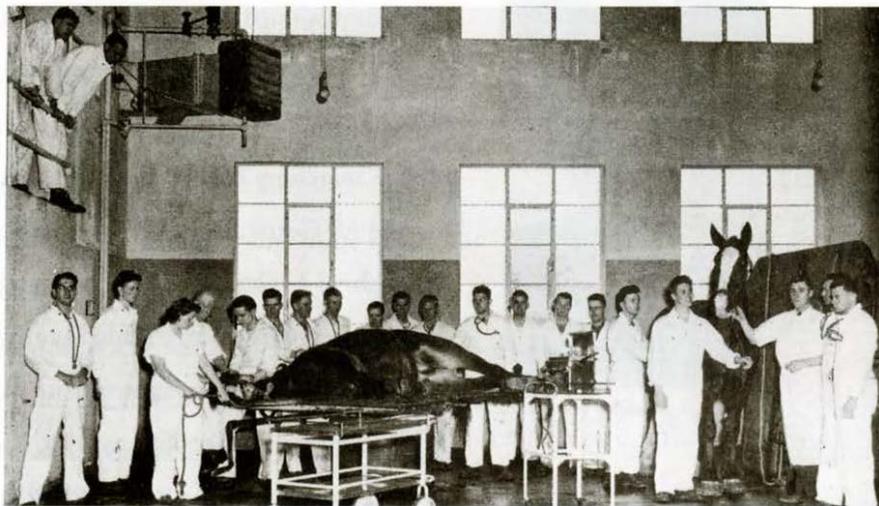
tion and it still colored thinking at the outset of World War II. In addition, the role of veterinarians as meat and livestock inspectors had been firmly established in World War I. During the spring of 1942, draft authorities asked students to apply for commissions as second lieutenants in the Medical Administration Corps so they could continue their education without being called to service by local draft boards. Virtually all students complied, and graduating seniors that year thought they were in the Army. They found, many to their chagrin, that instead they had been referred back to their local boards as special registrants. Some were drafted as privates and some were commissioned, but as Dr. Lavon M. Koger, Class of 1942, noted in his 1974 history of the college, "those entering large animal practice were largely left to fight the battle of retained placentae." The horse era in the military was over.

In the spring of 1943, most of the students resigned commissions in the Medical Administration Corps to join the enlisted reserve corps. They were assigned to duty in the Army Specialized Training Program and were officially designated Company C. ASTP units existed across the country at universities with veterinary schools. At Washington State, the commandant was Lieutenant Colonel William Morrison and the commanding officer was Captain Henry Butherus. In July, Company C was activated and sent to Fort Lewis for induction. After five days of training the members returned to Pullman to continue their education,

though now as soldiers. Freshmen and sophomores were quartered in the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity house, juniors and seniors in the Theta Chi house. Reportedly, the Army had a difficult time enforcing curfew among the veterinary students, virtually the only men on a campus full of women,

though now as soldiers. Freshmen and sophomores were quartered in the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity house, juniors and seniors in the Theta Chi house. Reportedly, the Army had a difficult time enforcing curfew among the veterinary students, virtually the only men on a campus full of women.

The gulf that existed between the veterinary students in the ASTP and the rest of the military services was not lost on the students. They were marched regularly to and from classes, and one of their sardonic marching refrains was "Take down your service flag, mother. Your son's in the ASTP."



Large Animal Surgery,
McCoy Hall, c. 1943



Clayton H. Mickelsen '39

Company C did boast Washington State's intramural baseball champion as well as a marching band of about 20 members. Both activities helped relieve the tedium of a regimented military existence in Pullman. Company members were eager to go on calls outside the Pullman area to get out from under the watchful eye of the Army, especially the unit's noncommissioned officer, First Sergeant David Kupfer. Ailing horses in Walla Walla are said to have never received such solicitous treatment before or since.

The marching band suffered an unkind cut, however, when a newly formed Air Corps unit appropriated its instruments. Future faculty member Richard L. Ott, Class of 1945, is said to have exacted revenge on Air Corps cadets with an ink-loaded syringe.

The veterinary unit was broken up in 1944. When discharged from the ASTP, most students applied to be first lieutenants in the Veterinary Corps. With the exception of a few who had remained in the Medical Administration Corps, most were not commissioned immediately. The majority eventually saw active service, some as late as the Korean Conflict.

No recounting of this era is complete without mentioning Captain Clayton H. Mickelsen's war record. A member of the Class of 1939, Dr. Mickelsen entered the Army after graduation. On December 22, 1941, at Rosano, La Union, Philippine Is-



Acting Dean Jon A. McCurdy

lands, concentrated fire from tanks and infantry at close range was raking the rear guard of the 26th Cavalry. Dr. Mickelsen, a lieutenant at the time, and one other officer remained between the pursuing Japanese and their own forces to set fire to a truck on a bridge, and they stayed until the bridge burned. Then they slowly retreated, picking up wounded and organizing stragglers. Dr. Mickelsen received the Distinguished Service Cross. He died February 4, 1945, shortly before the war ended. He is memorialized by a lounge in Bustad Hall.

Another notable graduate of the era was Dr. Vitt P. Ferrucci, Class of January 1944, who served on the WSU Board of Regents from 1979 to 1985 and was president of the board in 1985.

Dr. Arturs Vitums' veterinary career was a casualty of World War II, but that war was responsible for bringing the college a fondly regarded faculty member. In 1943, Dr. Vitums had been elected veterinary dean at the University of Latvia. However, the war rolled over northwestern Europe, and he never served in the position. At war's end, he was a refugee. In 1949, Dr. Vitums came to WSC as an assistant professor of anatomy. In 1976, he was presented the Distinguished Veterinary Alumnus Award.

Dr. Robert P. Worthman joined the anatomy faculty in 1946. After leaving in 1949 to do graduate work at Iowa State University, he returned in 1953 as an assistant professor of anatomy. Dr. Worthman dissected, painted, and labeled freeze-dried specimens to help students comprehend the regional anatomy of common surgical procedures. The Robert P. Worthman Anatomy Museum in Wegner Hall is named for him.



Dr. Arturs Vitums



Robert P. Worthman Anatomy Museum

Maintained by the Department of Veterinary and Comparative Anatomy, Pharmacology and Physiology, it preserves specimens by a variety of useful methods, including the freeze drying that Dr. Worthman used so effectively.

Dr. Jon A. McCurdy also joined the faculty in 1946. He was chair of the Department of Anatomy for many years and was acting dean in 1962-63. Drs. McCurdy, Worthman, and Vitums earned justifiable reputations as outstanding anatomy teachers.

After the war, on campuses across the country, enrollment burgeoned with GI Bill scholars. Even though the entering class was enlarged to 50 in 1945, "the applicants increased so tremendously it became necessary to limit the enrollment," Dr. McCoy reported. Although class sizes have been increased periodically since then, the number of qualified applicants continues to exceed the school's ability to accommodate them.





Small animal surgery, c. 1943



CHAPTER 10

NEW DIRECTIONS



THE VETERINARY COLLEGE SURVIVED A CRISIS IN ITS EVOLUTION SHORTLY AFTER WORLD WAR II. In 1945, one year after E.O. Holland resigned as WSC president and was succeeded by Wilson Compton, the veterinary college was reorganized as an administrative subdivision of the Institute of Agricultural Sciences. After 46 years as an independent professional division of Washington State, the college was overseen by an agriculture dean whose authority superseded the veterinary dean's. This shift away from a medical model of veterinary medicine and back to an agricultural model was a retrograde step in the professional development of veterinary medicine. Although enrollment boomed, faculty morale ebbed, and after accreditation visits in

Phi Zeta Charter

To all to Whom These Presents shall come, Greetings:

As it becometh that a charter for the establishment of
Washington State College

of the
Zeta Chapter
of the Honorary Society of

Phi Zeta

Is hereby granted to the following persons as Charter Members thereof
according to them and their duly elected associates and successors, all the privileges con-
ferred by the Constitution of the Society of Phi Zeta to the Charter Members as
herein before.

In Testimony Whereof the signatures of the National President and
Secretary of the Society of Phi Zeta and the seal of said Society are hereunto
affixed on this fourth day of April in the year of our Lord 1952
This done and attested at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



W. J. F. F. F.

F. A. Hunt

Charter Members

Dr. Howard Beardsmore Dr. Jordan H. Knowe
Dr. Isabel Cowart Dr. J. H. McDurdy

Dr. William S. Kibbler
Staff Members

Dr. John S. McCoy Dr. Guy K. Spencer
Dr. Ernest C. Stone

Junior Class

Robert W. Easder	Howard F. Lawmaster	Orville E. Frost
Henry C. Harris	Robert E. Carlsow	Richard S. Smith
Raymond R. Kibbler	Fred W. Miller	John H. Schriber
Archie S. Miller	Barrett S. Maggart	George M. Meek

Junior Class

Charles M. Reed	Clarence S. Mirick
Byron A. George	Robert Crossley

1946 and 1948, the AVMA still refused to award the college more than probationary accreditation. The school did not regain its autonomy until 1950, a move prompted by the continued pressure of the veterinary profession, both nationally and in Washington state.

Another casualty of the reorganization might have been Dr. Weguer, who may have found being subservient to an agriculture school dean untenable after having run the veterinary college for decades. Dr. Wegner retired as dean in 1947, although he continued teaching until 1950.

In 1952, the classroom-laboratory and clinic buildings completed a decade earlier were named for the visionaries who planned them, Drs. J.E. McCoy and E.E. Wegner. This was the flourish near the close of their careers. After Dr. Wegner retired as dean, Dr. Roy E. Nichols held the post for three years. In June of 1950,

Dr. McCoy became the chair of a faculty committee that served in lieu of a dean for two years. When Dr. McCoy took mandatory retirement in 1952, the chairman of the Department of Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology, Dr. Ernest C. Stone, Class of 1942, succeeded him and served as dean until 1961. The Stone family name is continued at the college in the person of his daughter, Dr. Diana Stone, an associate professor in the Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Pathology.

Dr. Nichols' short tenure as dean was marked by an autocratic, distanced administrative style that had a depressing effect on faculty morale. Dr. Stone was a much more approachable dean. He not only greatly restored morale in the college, he presided over an era of significant growth in which the college began to see itself as an institution capable of riding the waves of ever-more-rapid change that have shaped the veterinary medical profession in the past 50 years.

An anecdote that suggests Dr. Stone's administrative style comes from Dr. Richard F. Hall, Class of 1958. During their senior year, Dr. Hall and a classmate, Dr. Robert Dolphin, demonstrated an entrepreneurial spirit and established the Veterinary Supply Company to handle textbooks for veterinary students. The bookstore operated from Dr. Hall's 8½ x 11-foot living room, since it was not permitted on university property. The enterprise turned a net profit of \$728.95 on \$11,433.34 gross revenues, but it also drew the ire of the Board of Regents.





Dean Ernest C. Stone

Dr. Hall explains, "It was rather touch and go for awhile if they were going to let it exist or even if Bob and I were going to graduate. It is a good thing Ernie Stone stood up for us."

Dean Stone resigned in 1961 to help establish a veterinary college in Lyallapur, West Pakistan, at a new university patterned after the U.S. land grant college system. He was given a two-year appointment as dean of the new college.

As Dr. Wegner's career was concluding, Dr. Richard L. Ott's long and distinguished tenure was beginning. After earning an undergraduate degree from WSC in 1944 and a DVM in 1945, Dr. Ott practiced with Dr. Peter MacKintosh in Yakima for a year. He then joined the U.S. Army, and was assigned to the Tropical Disease Research Laboratory in Manila, where he was a member of the research team that documented the presence of Eastern Equine Encephalomyelitis in the Philippines. He also studied the efficacy of existing vaccines in the prevention of canine rabies.



Dean Roy E. Nichols

After leaving the Army, Dr. Ott returned to private practice for a year with Dr. Mervin C. Mahoney, Class of September 1944, in California. He came back to WSC to head the Small Animal Clinic in 1949. From 1955 to 1973, he was chair of the Depart-

ment of Veterinary Clinical Medicine and Surgery, and from 1973 until his retirement in 1983, he was Associate Dean for Public Programs.

Dr. Ott headed the veterinary hospital during an era when it was modernized dramatically. In 1960, he oversaw a major renovation of the hospital in McCoy Hall and also secured a large grant from the U.S. Public Health Service to make that project possible. In contrast to the \$115,000 it had cost to build McCoy Hall in 1942, the reconstruction 18 years later ran to \$1.6 million. The commitment to modern facilities embodied in that project helped secure full professional accreditation for the college.



McCoy Hall, 1961



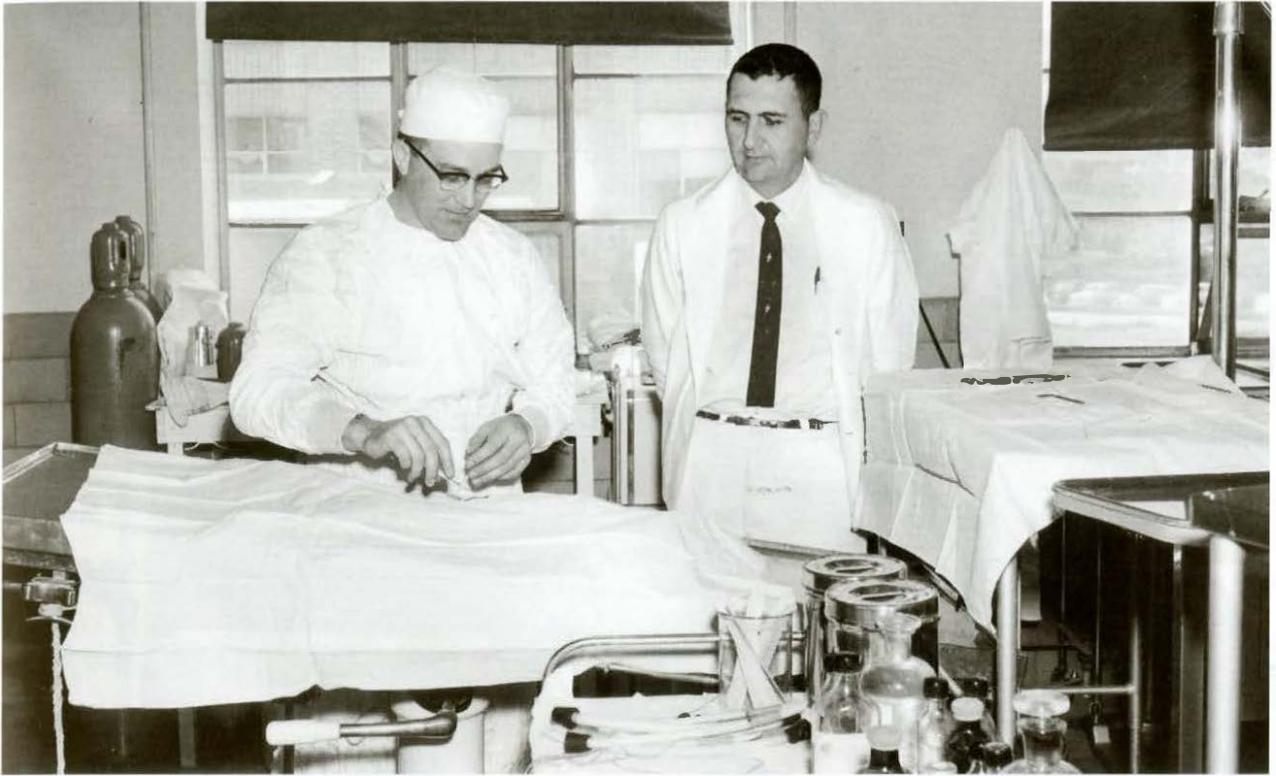
Dr. Richard L. Ott

Credit for the progress made during the 1950s also belongs to WSC President C. Clement French. President French, who came to WSC from Texas A&M University and was familiar with its large, thriving veterinary school, supported Dean Stone's and Dr. Ott's projects. In 1959, during President French's tenure, Washington State College became Washington State University.

Dr. Ott was a prolific researcher. He was a leader in proving the validity of immunizing newborn animals. His basic research led to development of an effective vaccine for canine distemper. This work earned him national renown and many honors. A major focus of his later studies was understanding and controlling feline leukemia.

In 1962, Dr. Ott was presented the gold Fido by the American Animal Hospital Association, signifying his selection as Veterinarian of the Year. In 1964, the American Veterinary Medical Association awarded him its Gaines Medal for his contributions to teaching and research, and in 1975, the Washington State Veterinary Medical Association named him its Veterinarian of the Year.

Dr. Ott's research activities also led to an invitation in 1978 to deliver WSU's prestigious Distinguished Faculty Address. Dr. John R. Gorham, Class of 1946, in 1973 and Dr. Travis C. McGuire in 1989 are the only other veterinary faculty members to have been so honored.



Dr. Hugh C. Butler and
unidentified student, c. 1955

Even more than as a researcher, Dr. Ott is remembered as a brilliant clinical instructor by generations of college alumni, who generally regarded him with awe. He was selected by three senior classes for the Carl J. Norden Distinguished Teacher Award. Before and after he died in 1998, his colleagues at WSU sought to honor him by mounting campaigns to have the new Veterinary Teaching Hospital named in his honor.

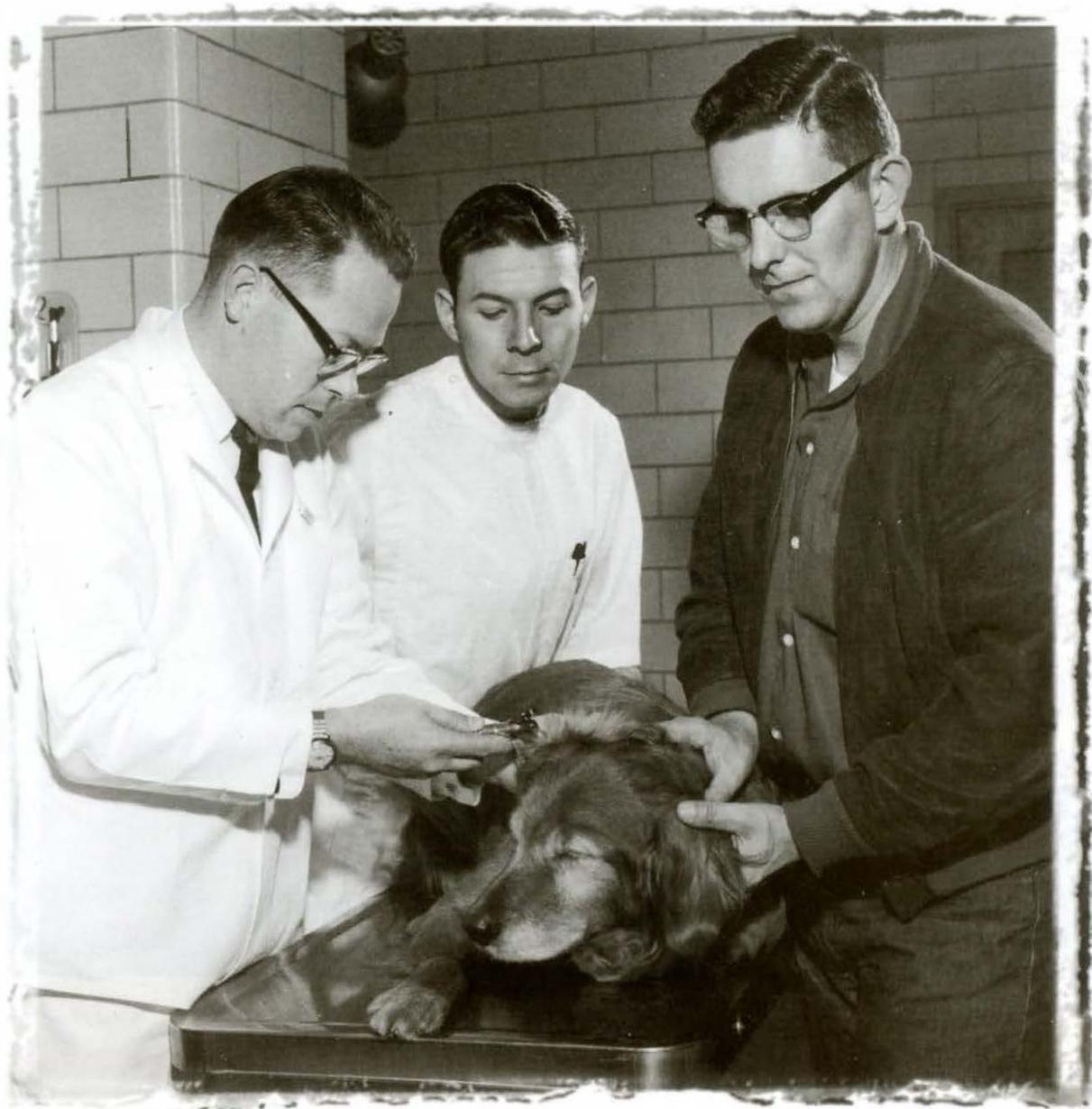




SECTION THREE

THE MODERN ERA





Dr. Ghery D. Pettit (left), W. Marvin Mackie '63, and James W. Glosser '63

CLINICAL TEACHING & CONTINUING EDUCATION



THROUGHOUT THE HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE, CLINICAL VETERINARY EDUCATION HAS BEEN A VITAL CONCERN. Certainly through its first half century, it was the driving force. From 1918 to 1948, WSC was the only veterinary college west of the Rocky Mountains, and the institution played a vital role in training veterinarians for clinical practice, especially on the West Coast. Indeed, producing competent clinicians remains the preeminent measure of the college's worth.

A summer session was added to the veterinary curriculum in 1964. In 1976, the clinical teaching schedule was changed to four-week-long basic and

elective blocks in each discipline, and externships away from the campus were introduced.

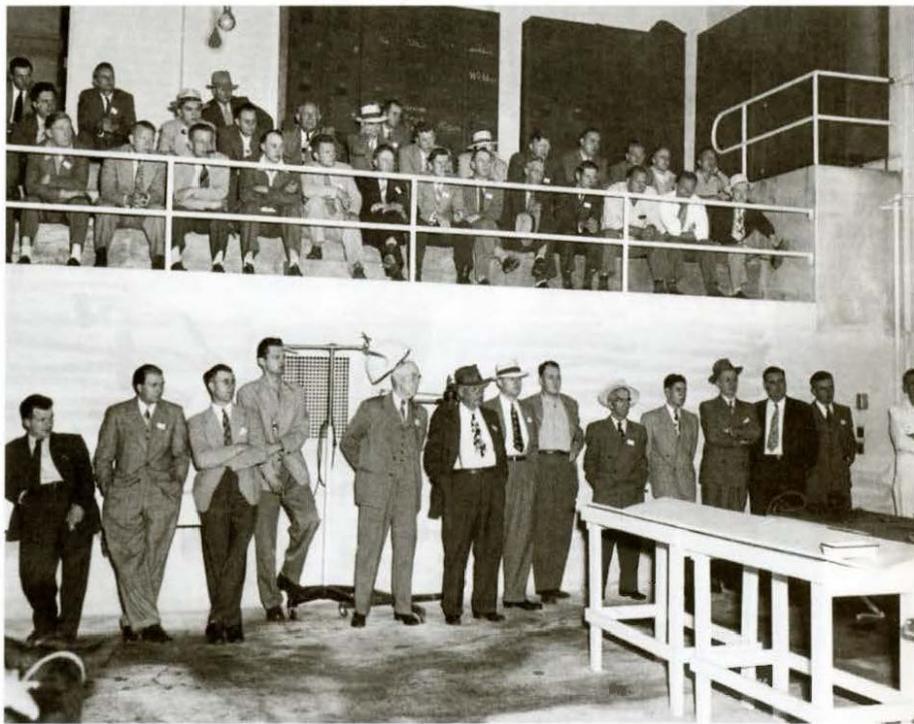
The sophistication of clinical teaching took a big step forward in the 1960s when formal residency training programs and specialty organizations with rigorous qualifying examinations began to proliferate. In 1965-66, equine surgeon Gordon H. Keown and small animal surgeons Hugh C. Butler, Class of 1954, and Ghery D. Pettit became charter diplomates of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. Dr. Keown was elected to the first ACVS Board of Regents, and Dr. Butler served on the first ACVS examining committee. In 1979-80, Dr. Pettit held the offices of president and chairman of the Board of Regents, and he was editor of the ACVS journal, *Veterinary Surgery*, for six years. In 1994, Dr. Pettit received the ACVS's highest honor, its Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Richard L. Ott, Class of 1945, was a charter diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and a member of its examining committee. Dr. Jack E. Alexander, WSU's first radiologist, was president of the American College of Veterinary Radiology. Eventually, most clinical faculty members became certified in one or more of the 20 specialties recognized by the AVMA.

The cost of a veterinary education, following the earliest days when it was tuition-free for Washington residents and later when the post-World War II GI Bill ended, has been a heavy burden for students. In recent years, the student debt to starting salary ratio stood at \$1.50 to \$1. Such a crushing load determined career choices and limited student options. In 1945,

the first Borden Award, for the third-year student with the highest cumulative grade point average, went to Dean C. Lindley, Class of 1946. It was the cornerstone of an annual awards program initiated by Drs. Richard Ott and Robert Leader and developed further by Dr. Frank Bracken. Under Dr. Bracken's guidance, the number and size of donations grew substantially. Dr. Bracken also introduced the Awards Dessert, an event sponsored by the Washington State Veterinary Medical Association that usually featured Dr. Bracken's favorite dessert, cherry pie with chocolate ice cream. The awards now provide more than \$150,000 each year to help veterinary students defray the cost of their education.

From its beginning, the concept of continuing education has been of paramount importance to the College of Veterinary Medicine. Within a month after the school opened in 1892, the research station staff held a farmer's institute at Colton. A two-hour program of six speakers included Dr. Munn on spastic and flatulent colic. Within a year, similar programs were held throughout the state.



Spring Conference, c. 1950

Beginning shortly before World War I, conferences sponsored by the college and by state and regional veterinary associations were held in Pullman. These short courses typically involved a week of intense study and focused on contemporary issues in clinical practice. The records of his participation in conferences show that Dr. McCoy was a remarkably versatile clinician, comfortable treating a wide array of animals. Such meet-

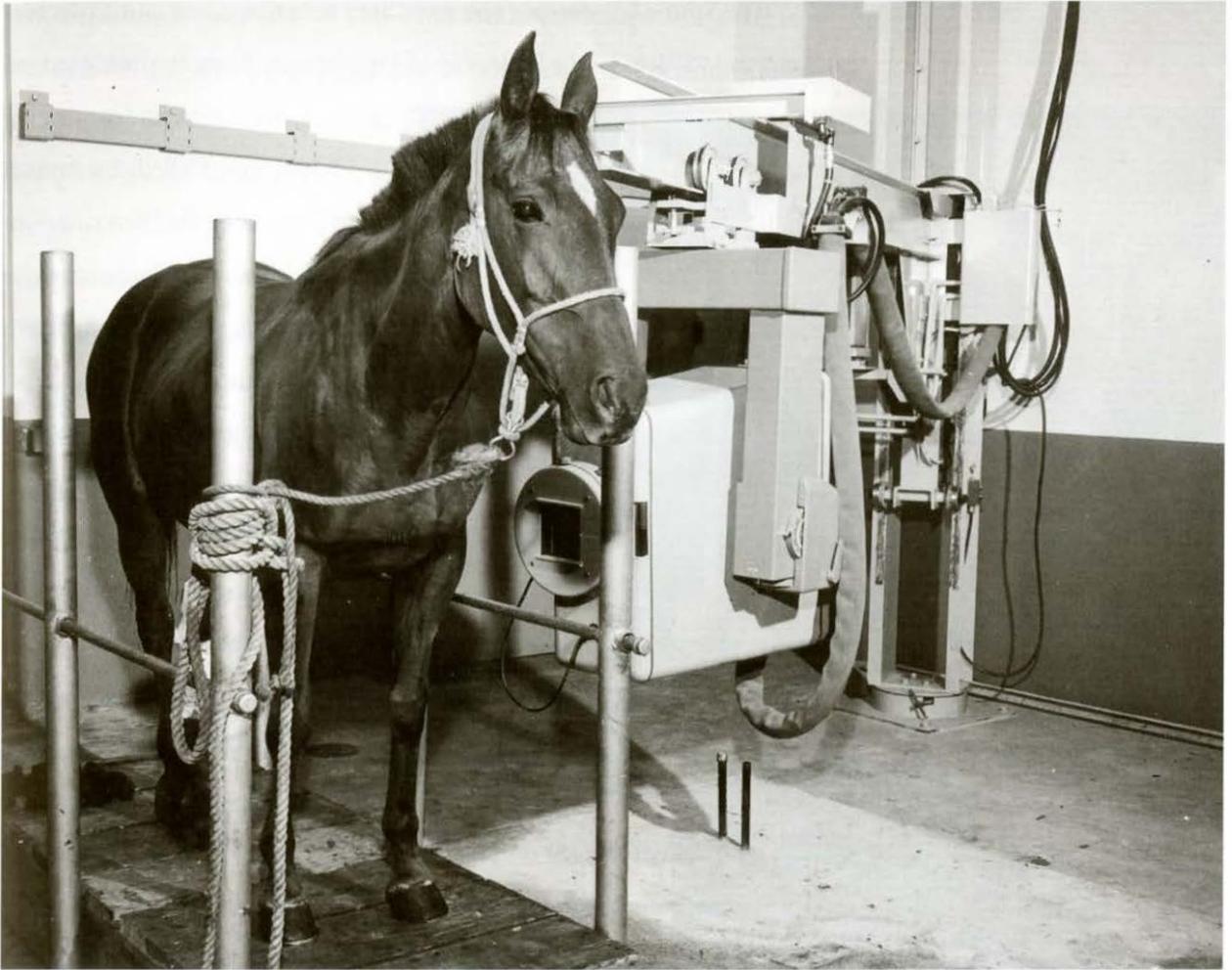


First closed circuit TV demonstration of a Spring Conference, 1960

ings drew participants from throughout the Northwest and British Columbia. Attendance seemed to range between 25 and 50.

After one such meeting in 1931, attended by 43 veterinarians, Dr. Wegner wrote, "Considering that a general financial depression existed at the time of our meeting and considering the fact that our location is not advantageous, I consider that the above mentioned attendance proves conclusively that the veterinarians of the Northwest feel that our programs are of highest quality and worthy of their continued support."

Such programs set the stage for the Spring Conference, first scheduled for the college during spring vacation in 1949. The conference offered veterinarians a chance to gather, it allowed the college to bring research and new techniques directly to the profession, and it was highlighted by such social amenities as banquets and dinner dances for participants. It



flourished until the scope of the undertaking for a small faculty already stretched thin by its teaching and research duties and declining financial support from the college slowed it. In later years, no college funds were appropriated for the conference. Registration fees supported other expenses, but faculty speakers provided their services free.

The Spring Conference was revitalized by a new name and a new format in 1989, under the leadership of Dr. Warwick Bayly, the newly named



Small animal surgery, McCoy Hall, 1961

Associate Dean for Continuing Education. Called the Annual Conference for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians, it features a series of concurrent short courses. Strategic planning in the late 1980s and 1990s determined that expanding the role of continuing education would be one of the primary ways for the college to serve the veterinary medical profession in an era when change was occurring at an

unprecedented rate.

Accreditation visits throughout the 1940s resulted in the college remaining on the AVMA approved list, although the exact nature of the “approved list” was not specified. As Dr. Lavon M. Koger, Class of 1942, pointed out in 1974, “...a member of the present Council on Education remembers that it did not constitute ‘Full Accreditation.’ In fact, it is his opinion that WSU was fully accredited only between 1960-1970.”

Accreditation visits in 1945 and 1948 found the college struggling to establish satisfactory operating conditions, both in terms of personnel and equipment. Nevertheless, probational accreditation was extended after each visit and the 1946 accreditation team noted approvingly, "The budget provides for financing of conferences or short courses for graduate veterinarians throughout the Northwest."

Throughout its history, a steady stream of publications, of both faculty and student origin, has flowed from WSU's venerable college. Countless articles have appeared in scientific journals, but *Disinfection and Sterilization* by bacteriologist Ernest C. McCulloch, published in 1936, was the first textbook written by an active member of the faculty. In 1937, Dr. Nicholas G. Covington published his *Manual of Practical and Experiential Pharmacology*, which was an outgrowth of the laboratory manual on the same subject he first issued in 1929.

In 1953, the student chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association began publishing *Western Veterinarian*. Originally called *Cougar Veterinary Yearbook*, it was largely a research journal but did duty as an alumni magazine and college newsletter as well. *Western Veterinarian* published items relevant to the veterinary college and commentary on student life and the profession.



One of the original co-editors, Dr. Hugh C. Butler, Class of 1954, recalled that the magazine had a chancy beginning. After acquiring a total of \$300 from \$2 subscriptions, Dr. Butler and two of his classmates, co-editor Dale Dahlquist and business manager Jack D. Robinette, accepted a printing bid from a Spokane man. Both the printer and his wife were deaf and unable to speak. Communication with the veterinary students was therefore accomplished by extensive passing of notes between the printers and students.

According to Dr. Butler, "The editors got so used to writing that one day during a coffee break a few months after the outfit got rolling, they were musing (silently) over their problems when one of the editors suddenly took a pencil and pad of paper, wrote a note and handed it to the other one." Dr. Butler also recalled that the printer had barely completed work on the magazine when he went bankrupt.

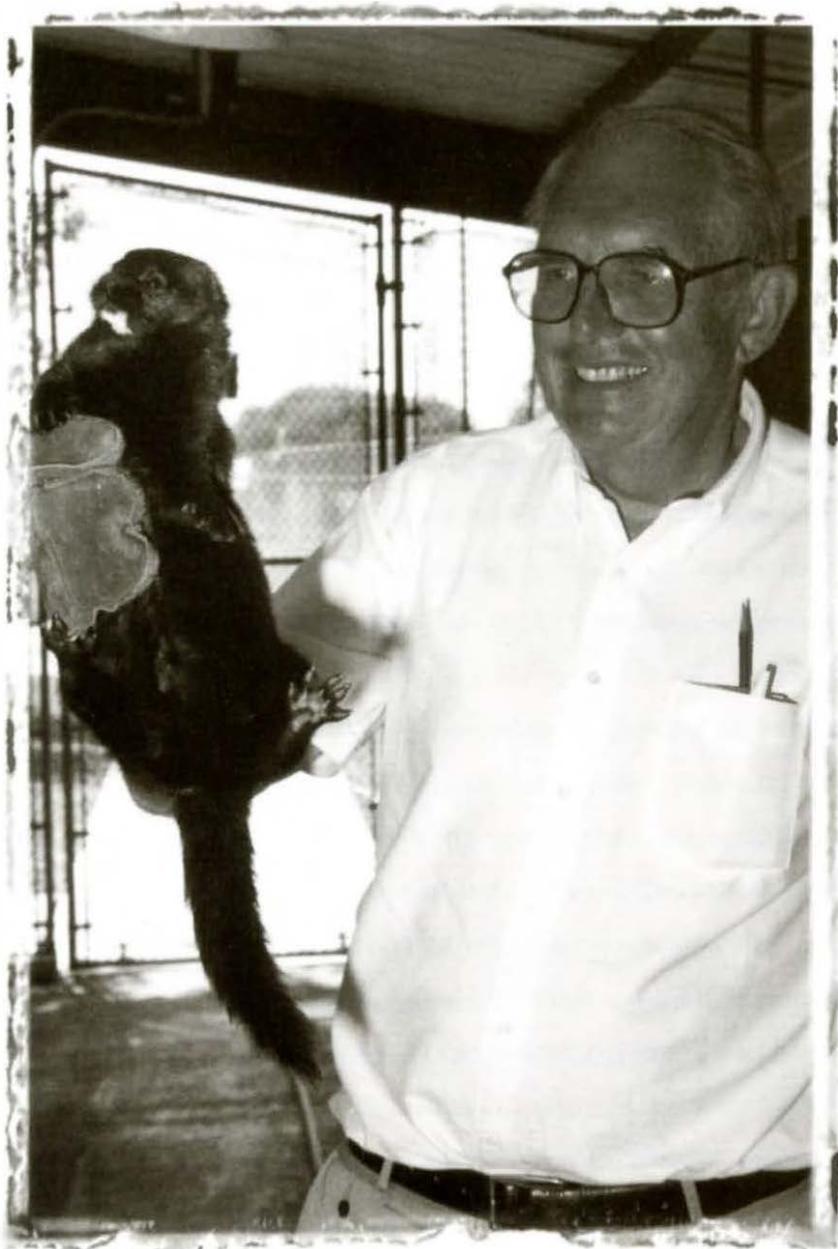
In 1957, Drs. Hilton A. Smith and Thomas Carlyle Jones, Class of 1935, published the first edition of their landmark text, *Veterinary Pathology*. Dr. Smith, who was on the veterinary school faculty from 1928 to 1939, taught pathology, histology, meat inspection, and public health. Dr. Jones was born and raised in Boise and completed his undergraduate work at the University of Idaho. After graduating from veterinary school at Washington State, Dr. Jones entered the Army Veterinary Corps. From 1939 to 1946, he was the officer in charge of veterinary research at laboratories in Virginia and Nebraska. From 1946 to 1951, he was chief of the veterinary pathology section of the Army Institute of Pathology in Wash-

ington, D.C. He was chief of the Army Veterinary Department from 1950 to 1953 and returned to his former job as section chief from 1953 until his retirement from the Army in 1957 as a lieutenant colonel. Dr. Jones was honored as Veterinary Alumnus of the Year in 1959. He finished his career as one of New England's notable pathologists, holding positions with Angell Memorial Animal Hospital, Harvard Medical School, the Cancer Research Institute of New England Deaconess Hospital, and the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital.

In 1960, Dr. Douglas C. Blood and future dean James A. Henderson published the first edition of *Veterinary Medicine*, an authoritative text on large animal medicine for a generation of veterinarians. Now in its eighth edition, *Veterinary Medicine* is written by Drs. O.M. Radostits, D.C. Blood, and WSU Professor Clive C. Gay.

Among numerous books by present and former CVM faculty and graduate students are Dr. Ghery Pettit's *Intervertebral Disc Protrusion in the Dog*, published in 1966, and the comprehensive two-volume *Textbook of Small Animal Surgery* edited by WSU's first small animal surgery resident, Dr. Douglas H. Slatter, which appeared in 1985. Parasitologist William J. Foreyt's *Veterinary Parasitology Reference Manual*, first issued in 1989, is the most widely used veterinary parasitology text in the nation.





Dr. John R. Garham

RESEARCHERS BRING NEW STATUERE



IN 1902, THE COLLEGE PRODUCED ITS FIRST TWO GRADUATES. IN 1948, IT TOOK ANOTHER STEP toward becoming the institution it is today. The first-ever graduate degree was awarded to Dr. John R. Gorham, Class of 1946, who earned a Master of Science degree in pathology while studying under Dr. Donald R. Cordy. Later, the pair discovered the rickettsia that causes salmon disease in dogs and foxes.

Dr. Gorham went on to earn a Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin in 1953. He returned to Pullman, where he held a joint appointment with the College of Veterinary Medicine in the Department of Veterinary Microbiology and with the U.S. Department of Agriculture as research leader of the

Animal Disease Research Unit. In a career spanning more than 50 years, Dr. Gorham authored more than 600 academic publications. His wide-ranging research into viral and parasitic diseases of cattle, sheep, goats, and fur animals made him a pioneer in the field of establishing animal models for human diseases.

In 1993, Dr. Gorham was the 28th recipient of the WSU Regents' Distinguished Alumnus Award, the highest honor WSU bestows on its graduates. The only other recipients of that award from the College of Veteri-



Gross pathology rounds conducted by Dr. G. Roger Spencer (second from right), c. 1960

nary Medicine have been the long-time director of the San Diego Zoo, Dr. Charles R. Schroeder, Class of 1929, in 1979 and Dr. Leo K. Bustad, Class of 1949, in 1987. In 1993, Dr. Gorham also became the first veterinarian to be inducted into the USDA's Agricultural Hall of Fame.

In 1998, the C.L. Davis Foundation for the Advancement of Veterinary and Comparative Pathology honored Dr. Gorham, Dr. Thomas C. Jones, Class of 1935, and Dr. Floris M. Garner, Class of 1950, former chairman of veterinary pathology at the Armed Forces Institute of

Pathology in Washington, D.C., by naming them Legends in Veterinary Pathology.

A notable research discovery of the 1960s occurred when Dr. Keith Farrell, Class of 1955, while using intense cold to remove a tumor from a horse, discovered the procedure painlessly removed pigment from the animal's hair. Dr. Farrell refined this into the technique of freeze branding. Earlier in life, Dr. Farrell had trained as a rodeo clown with the actor Slim Pickins. The two developed a lifelong friendship, and Pickins was an occasional visitor to Pullman. Dr. Farrell died in 1980 at a professional meeting in Tucson.

The school enjoyed favorable accreditation visits in the 1960s. A 1960 report was complimentary and full accreditation was extended. The report noted there had been no accreditation visit to the college since 1953, but it gave no reason for the hiatus. In 1965, an accreditation visit resulted in full accreditation, but the accrediting team recommended that "efforts be continued to explore the possibilities of minimizing intellectual isolation." The committee also dismissed the college's efforts in research. For 1962, total research grants were \$30,448.78. Most research still dealt with livestock and fur animals. There was some equine and some canine research ongoing. However, the most notable research was concentrated in a few faculty members, and National Institutes of Health grants supported it and virtually the entire graduate program.

The scope and quality of research was about to increase fundamentally. Dr. Robert W. Leader, Class of 1952, who served as a pathologist from



Robert W. Leader '52

1955 to 1965, secured for Washington State the first training grant to develop animal models of human diseases. The concept of comparative medicine gradually took hold in the college in succeeding decades. Today, it is a profound force in shaping research, and WSU is prominent throughout veterinary medicine in this area.

Notable examples of such research include studies by Dr. Travis C. McGuire and colleagues on combined immunodeficiency of Arabian foals, a recessive genetic disease affecting foals in that breed. Dr. McGuire was later joined by Dr. Lance Perryman, Class of 1970. Their work had relevance to human immunodeficiency. In the use of animal models of human disease, Drs. McGuire and Perryman foreshadowed what has become one of the more notable categories of research. Drs. George Padgett and John Gorham, in collaboration, discovered a rare genetic disorder, Chediak Higashi syndrome, in cattle and mink. It had previously been reported only in humans, and their discoveries allowed animals to be used as models to study this syndrome in humans. With Drs. Linda Cork and Timothy Crawford in the early 1970s, Dr. Gorham and collaborators studied a slow virus disease later called caprine arthritis-encephalitis. This disease also had ramifications for human medicine as well as animal agriculture, since the virus is a member of the same group of viruses that causes AIDS.

Another alumnus who went on to establish a notable reputation as a researcher was Dr. Richard F. Marsh, Class of 1963. He earned a Ph.D. in veterinary science at the University of Wisconsin in 1968. In 1970, he joined the faculty at Wisconsin and remained there as a professor and

department administrator until his death in 1997. In 1985, Dr. Marsh and several other scientists sounded an early warning about the possibility of a bovine spongiform encephalopathy (mad cow disease) epidemic in Great Britain, and Dr. Marsh proposed Food and Drug Administration guidelines to prevent a similar outbreak in this country.

Safeguarding the U.S. from mad cow disease is one of veterinary medicine's great public health triumphs. The spongiform encephalopathies affect numerous species and WSU has become a national leader in researching this class of diseases in sheep. In 1998, microbiologist Katherine O'Rourke, immunologist Timothy Baszler, large animal clinician Steven Parish, Class of 1973, and USDA Animal Disease Research Unit leader Donald Knowles announced the first practical preclinical test for scrapie in sheep.

In the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, radiation oncologist Patrick R. Gavin, Class of 1971, is developing an experimental form of cancer treatment called boron neutron capture therapy. As part of his studies, Dr. Gavin treats naturally occurring brain tumors in dogs. Since 1987, the U.S. Department of Energy has provided more than \$4,000,000 for this project. Human clinical trials are now under way.



Patrick R. Gavin '71





Dr. Leo Bustad and wife Signe with Bridget

A WORLDWIDE REPUTATION DEVELOPS



IF THE PRIMARY CHALLENGE FOR THE WSU VETERINARY COLLEGE IN THE 1970S WAS TO TRANSFORM ITSELF from a regional institution into one with a national and international reach, it had the right man at the helm in dean and triple alumnus Leo K. Bustad. His administration began in 1973 and lasted 11 years. In a column in *Western Veterinarian*, Dr. Bustad dubbed himself “The Peripatetic Dean,” and he seemed to be constantly at large in the world. His travels carried WSU’s reputation around the globe.

Dr. Bustad, Class of 1949, earned B.S. degrees in agriculture and education, an M.S. in animal nutrition, and his DVM at WSU, and earned a Ph.D. in psychology at the University of Washington College of Medicine. From

1949 to 1965, he performed and directed biological research at Hanford Laboratories. He was later director of the Radiobiology and Comparative Oncology Laboratory at the University of California, Davis.

Dean Bustad held forth as an eloquent spokesman for the college. One podium was presented to him by the 1974 Expo in Spokane. He spoke at Gonzaga Law School on the veterinarian's role in securing an adequate and safer food supply, population control in man and animals, and the veterinarian's role in human health.

Those were aspects of veterinary medicine's longstanding role in promoting public health. Dean Bustad's Expo speech evoked an image of the profession that was in existence from the day the college opened its doors. Later in his career, when he went beyond the traditional view of veterinary medicine, Dr. Bustad fashioned the most enduring monument to his career. It rose from his fascination with the human-animal bond. In his writings, he began relating to colleagues his experiences studying the therapeutic effects of animal companionship in the treatment of human mental illness.

The concept of animals as companions elevated those creatures above the status of units of production or property. His enhanced view of animals can well be said to be the cornerstone of the emerging field of animal well-being. The AVMA estimated in 1997 that Americans spent \$266 million annually for therapies that veterinarians consider beyond routine. In the science of animal well-being, a field in which WSU assumed international leadership, Dr. Bustad became a worldwide authority. As a result

of his interest, the college established the People-Pet Partnership in 1974. It subsequently became affiliated with the Center for the Study of Animal Well-being, established between 1991 and 1993 and now one of the college's most innovative contemporary research thrusts. The center is the only academic unit in the WSU system that is funded completely with private donations.

A hallmark of Dean Bustad's tenure was his ability to bring a humanist's perspective and a moral component to the science of veterinary medicine. His book, *Compassion: Our Last Great Hope*, published in 1990,



Leo K. Bustad
Veterinary Science Building

had its second printing in 1996. Even after his retirement, Dr. Bustad continued to teach an annual seminar, "Reverence for Life." After he retired, the office and laboratory complex built in 1978 during his regime was dedicated as Bustad Hall on April 5, 1985.

Opened in 1978, the \$12.6 million structure had been built with a \$7.3 million appropriation from the Washington Legislature, a \$4.9 million federal Department of Health, Education, and Welfare grant, and \$300,000 from the university building account. Dean Bustad and his wife, Signe, a WSU alumna, commissioned the artist Sancho (Sanj-won Cho) to produce eight panels depicting epochs in the history of veterinary

medicine for display in the lobby of the new building. More than 500 people attended the dedication, including future Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Tom Foley and U.S. Senator Warren Magnuson, who gave the keynote address on food animal research.

The Washington State Veterinary Medical Association named Dean Bustad its Veterinarian of the Year in 1980 and gave him its Distinguished Service Award in 1984.

During World War II, Dr. Bustad had been one of only a handful of survivors of the amphibious landing at Anzio and was taken prisoner by the Germans. When the WSU Veterans Memorial was dedicated on Veterans Day in 1993, he was the keynote speaker. "It is with shame that we must confess that for millions of Americans, freedom means simply the opportunity to do what they jolly well please," he said. "That sort of freedom is not worth one life at Casablanca, Sicily, Salerno, Anzio, Normandy, Southern France, in Korea, Vietnam, Panama, the Persian Gulf, or any other field of battle."

Dr. Bustad died of pneumonia, September 19, 1998, at the age of 78.

Another enterprise that has become crucial to the college's vision of the future began in the mid-1970s. In 1974, the college opened the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory. The project was propelled by strong support from Washington's livestock industry and from the Washington State Veterinary Medical Association. The diagnostic laboratory provides services in bacteriology, parasitology, pathology, serology, toxicology, and virology. Its aim is to safeguard the health of pets and live-

stock and to safeguard the public from zoonotic diseases. In 1979, the laboratory became the first in the western United States to be accredited as a Full Service Laboratory by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians.

Reorganization within the college in the early 1970s led to the departments of Veterinary Microbiology and Veterinary Pathology being combined into a new Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Pathology. Similarly, the departments of Veterinary Anatomy and Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology were merged to create the Department of Veterinary and Comparative Anatomy, Pharmacology, and Physiology. One other change occurred in 1994, when the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine and Surgery changed its name to the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences. This organizational structure exists today.

The growth of the veterinary profession is most appreciated in the context of its past. In 1978, Washington State University became the repository for one of the most complete collections of veterinary history. The Smithcors Collection of Veterinary History was developed over 35 years. In 1955, Dr. Fred Smithcors taught the first course in veterinary history in the U.S. at Michigan State University, at a time when only MSU and Washington State taught courses on that subject. Dr. Smithcors wrote three major works on the subject: *Evolution of the Veterinary Art* in 1957, *The American Veterinary Profession* in 1963, and *The Veterinarian in America 1625-1975* in 1975. He also wrote more than 150 journal articles, papers, and book chapters.

In 1978, when the collection comprised 1,200 books, pamphlets, and manuscripts spanning the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries, Dr. Smithcors began donating it to WSU. In 1981, he established the Marty Smithcors Memorial Endowment in honor of his late first wife.

Since coming to WSU, the collection has grown to nearly 2,000 items by British, U.S., French, Italian, and German authors. The Veterinary History Collection also supports research in contemporary and related fields. A large number of entries are devoted to animal welfare. The collection includes archival records of the Association for Women Veterinarians and the Delta Society, “an international educational research and service resource on the relationship between people, animals, and the environment.”

Way back in 1934, Dean Wegner had written, “We are under obligation first, of course, to the residents of the state of Washington, but after they are given consideration, it is our desire to train a number of veterinarians from neighboring states but we are unable to accommodate all who apply.” Challenges the veterinary school had faced throughout its history, small faculty and student body, modest funding, and an isolated location offering limited clinical opportunities, were dealt with in the 1970s through a program that was a model for academic cooperation between other veterinary schools.

In 1979, the Washington, Oregon, and Idaho Regional Program in Veterinary Medical Education (WOI) was established, concluding seven years of discussion, negotiation, compromise, and interim agreements.

As the numbers of pre-veterinary students increased dramatically in the Northwest in the early 1970s, Idaho and Oregon saw fewer and fewer of their students admitted to existing veterinary schools. Both states considered creating individual veterinary colleges or joining to establish an Oregon-Idaho program. But Dr. Bustad's vision, the interest of the federal government in regional education programs, and the availability of federal money for construction all worked to bring Washington State University, Oregon State University, and the University of Idaho together as partners.

WOL's growth was probably slowed by double digit inflation

in the late 1970s followed by economic recession in the early 1980s that saw all three schools' budgets flat-lined or even reduced. Even so, the widened base allowed WSU's veterinary school to survive and prosper.

Deans were appointed at all three schools. Idaho's dean was Dr. Floyd W. Frank, Class of 1951. In 1984, the University of Idaho changed the title of its administrator to director. Upon Dr. Frank's retirement, WSU Dean Robert B. Wilson, Class of 1961, also served as the UI director, from 1984 to 1988. Currently, there is an Idaho director and there are deans at





Floyd W. Frank '51

WSU and OSU. The WSU dean has direct authority over the UI teaching program.

In WOI, WSU and Idaho students take their entire four years at WSU. OSU students spend a year there before coming to Pullman. In the fourth year, OSU students return to OSU. In that year, single-subject, month-long courses allow students some opportunity to transfer among WOI schools and to study at other veterinary colleges. Both WSU and OSU award degrees. Because of WOI, Oregon built its veterinary school and Idaho built the Caine Veterinary Teaching Center in Caldwell. WOI allowed the schools to share the strengths of OSU's equine medicine program, Idaho's herd health management program, and WSU's companion animal clinic. WSU also provided opportunities for students with non-practice interests, including a DVM/graduate degree program and research, international, and aquatic animal health programs.

As Dean Wilson wrote in the *Journal of Veterinary Medical Education*, because of WOI, "the numbers of faculty at WSU increased significantly as a result of support from Oregon and Idaho. This increase, along with the establishment of facilities in Oregon and Idaho resulted in a total increase in faculty and a greatly improved student-faculty ratio, compared to the pre-WOI years at WSU."

Dr. Wilson concluded, "WOI provided immediate and significant financial relief for WSU and enabled that college to improve its instructional, research, diagnostic, and other service programs. It greatly improved access to veterinary medical education for Oregon residents and

enabled OSU to establish a new college of veterinary medicine and strengthened OSU research programs. Idaho has benefited from improved access to veterinary medical education and through significant improvements in research, extension, and diagnostic programs made possible by the participatory nature of the WSU-UI relationship.”

The gains were dramatic in research, too. The College of Veterinary Medicine has now firmly established its place among the top veterinary schools in the United States in federal and state research support at well over \$6 million annually. There is strong research in neurobiology, muscle biology and cardiopulmonary studies, pharmacology/toxicology, infectious diseases, immunology, and radiation therapy.

WOI set the stage for a decade of innovative academic cooperation between WSU and the UI. Beginning in the early 1980s, academic departments in several colleges in the universities merged, and WSU and Idaho aligned their academic calendars. In comprehensive ways now, the institutions see themselves as complementary resources rather than as rivals, as they had for decades.

WOI probably put to rest an issue that had been central to the college’s survival almost since its beginning—that it was in the wrong place. Hospital Number 2 in Spokane represented the school’s early attempt to expand clinical opportunities for its students. Throughout its history, discussions that the school really ought to be somewhere else swirled in the background. Even before World War I, Dean Nelson was recommending to President Holland that one faculty member a year be granted a short



Dean Robert B. Wilson

sabbatical leave to study at an eastern institution. “The very fact that we are so isolated from other institutions would make some such arrangement as this exceedingly desirable,” he wrote—and this at a time when there were fewer than 10 faculty members.

The matter became critical in the 1960s. The struggle to maintain accreditation was always a riveting concern for the college, especially since many could remember the school’s reduction from full accreditation to probationary status in the 1950s. Accrediting reports were taken seriously. In 1965, the Council on Education for the AVMA brought up circumstances that would seem to be closing the window of opportunity for the college’s future in Pullman.

The council pointed out that veterinary and human medicine were becoming ever more closely allied and must coordinate efforts. “The location of this college hinders such participation... while there is no compensating advantage of livestock concentration at the present location... The Council, realizing that it cannot solve this problem, would like to stress that intellectual isolation from the medical sciences is serious and that long-range planning should consider the relocation of the veterinary college to the Seattle area.”

Dean Henderson formed a sub rosa committee to pursue such a move and the matter got as far as a proposal from the UW College of Medicine



Dean James A. Henderson

to house the college there. The move was endorsed in a vote among veterinary college faculty. In 1965, the state veterinary medical association considered the proposal to move the college to the University of Washington.

The WOI agreement, though, gave the college the critical mass to combat its status as a small, isolated institution. The results are seen today, among other ways, in the brick and mortar of the federally funded Animal Disease Biotechnology Facility and the new teaching hospital where the diagnostic capability of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is made available to human patients through the one-of-a-kind Palouse Shared Medical Services agreement. Human and veterinary medical research in radiology and nuclear medicine proceed in concert, with the college as a full partner with the medical science community.

In 1976, cardiologists from Sacred Heart Hospital in Spokane and WSU veterinary surgeons performed the first open heart surgery on a horse in the region. This working relationship with the medical community had begun in 1975, initiated by Dr. Barrie Grant, Class of 1967. He, Dr. Pamela Wagner, and Spokane orthopedic surgeon George Bagby adapted cervical fusion techniques to correct the condition in horses called wobblers. The success of that surgery was the foundation of a program in which thoroughbred horses were donated to the Equine Orthopedic Research Fund. If the animals were rehabilitated, they were leased to owners for racing and money was raised for pilot equine research projects.

Dr. Bagby also contributed to small animal orthopedic research when, for her master's thesis, Dr. Donna Korvik evaluated a self-releasing bone plate he developed.

The most notable animal to benefit from the wobblers surgery may have been Secret Intent, a colt sired by Secretariat, who was able to pursue a racing career after his wobblers condition was corrected.

Seattle Slew's Golden Gallop at the Longacres race track in Seattle in 1977 raised \$40,000 to be used for a \$240,000 equine research track at WSU. In 1989, when Saucy Writer won \$8,000 at Portland Meadows, total winnings for the faculty-student corporation known as Cougar Racing Stable pushed past \$450,000.

On a rainy, windy May 16, 1978, an image from the horse era of veterinary medicine was reprised on a field on the Pullman campus. A scraper pulled by four draft horses and driven by luminaries in thoroughbred racing in the Northwest, including Seattle Slew owner Karen Taylor, made rounds in the dirt. It was the groundbreaking of the equine research track, a \$225,000 half-mile oval based on Swedish research in construction and safety and funded with private donations. It was dedicated as the Hitchcock Track in 1980, in honor of Maurice and Kathleen Hitchcock, horse lovers and philanthropists. The occasion was marked by a parade of dignitaries on horseback, relay races, and a bagpipe concert. The track became a formidable equine research tool into problems associated with track surface, gait, limb forces, and sports medicine.

Such equine research today has been enhanced by the college's equine treadmill facilities.

In the 1980s, Dr. Bernard R. Pinckney, Class of January 1944, sought to commemorate his profession and WSU. He envisioned the idea of The Caring Call, initiated fund-raising for it, and obtained permission to place it on the campus. Tacoma sculptor Larry Wayne Anderson was commissioned, and the project was financed by the sale of miniatures of the larger campus statue. Anderson used his son, Cap, as the model for the boy. A neighbor and his calf served to depict the other figures. The statue was dedicated September 29, 1990, during the WSU centennial. Jean Gardner, the wife of then Governor Booth Gardner, gave the keynote address. The Caring Call has become the veritable emblem of the college. It speaks eloquently about what the profession represents.



Bernard R. Pinckney '44





Veterinary Teaching Hospital (left) and Animal Disease Biotechnology Facility, 1998

ADDRESSING CONTEMPORARY ISSUES



THROUGHOUT ITS LONG HISTORY, THE COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE HAS ENJOYED A POSITIVE PUBLIC IMAGE. The way it responded to challenges to that perception in 1991 reflects the nature of the institution.

Since 1986, the veterinary college had been depositing coal ash and used animal bedding in a low spot at the Hitchcock Research Track. Veterinary school officials thought they were filling a depression and encouraging the growth of grass. The Washington Department of Ecology considered it an illegal dump. In spring 1991, the DOE filed a notice of violation against WSU, claiming that leaky sewage lagoons and improper storage and disposal of animal manure by the veterinary school and the Department of Animal Science

threatened to pollute creeks near campus. In May, Dr. Richard B. Wescott, Associate Dean of Veterinary Medicine, acknowledged, "I think they have legitimate concerns. The whole process is one where they identify them and we respond to it and work things out."

The veterinary college immediately diverted part of a pending \$90,000 National Institutes of Health grant to construction of manure holding facilities, and the university as a whole agreed to spend \$550,000 over two years to address the concern.

Three months later, late in the evening August 12 or early August 13, members of the Animal Liberation Front broke into two offices at Bustad



Lobby, Veterinary Teaching Hospital

Hall and into outlying animal pens at the fur animal disease research facility. Approximately \$100,000 of damage was done to research and office equipment and records. Thirteen mink and coyotes were released and 10 mice in two cages were taken. College officials were quick to point out the mink were not involved in fur industry research but were being used

as models to study a human blood disease, tyrosinemia. The coyotes had been used to non-invasively study a naturally occurring arthritis that also had applications to human medicine.

Traumatic as it was when it occurred, the break-in was ultimately a mere footnote to an era that was highlighted by the most dramatic transformation the college had undergone since its founding. The contemporary era in veterinary medical education dates from a critical, speculative, and comprehensive self-examination the college began in the late 1980s. The college continues today on a course set then.

Sixty years ago, strategic planning meant Dean Wegner spending half a year touring veterinary colleges to look at buildings. There was no great question then what a veterinarian was or how to train those individuals. The issue was how best to house them. Today, strategic planning involves much more sophisticated, complex looks at developments in related disciplines such as agriculture and medicine and changes in society. Such planning seeks to determine how the profession can serve the multifaceted contemporary world in which it exists.

The most profound development in the college today is acknowledgment that the greatest single force at work in the profession is change on a scale higher education institutions have rarely been forced to deal with in the past. The college's greatest triumph in this era has been its willingness to aim at a moving target.

In the early 1980s, the Pew Charitable Trust challenged all the health professions to examine their roles in a rapidly changing world. After a five-year study, the Pew National Veterinary Education Program in 1987 proposed 13 wide-ranging recommendations to make veterinary medicine



Dean Borje K. Gustafsson

reflect the twenty-first century. It encouraged North American veterinary schools to compete for grants that would help the schools define their futures. In 1989, WSU successfully competed for \$150,000 in Pew grants. The grants provided seed money for sweeping curriculum reform, for new partnerships with veterinary education institutions abroad, for a commitment to make the college reflect the diverse society around it, and for new emphasis on research, curriculum modernization, continuing education, and animal well being.

In 1986, WSU had already begun providing two-week classes in large animal and small animal medicine and surgery to groups of second and third year veterinary students from Nihon University in Fujisawa, Japan. The primary purpose was to give the Japanese students experience with U.S. instructors. In 1990, WSU signed a formal agreement with the veterinary school at Nihon University to continue the classes for 30 to 40 students each summer.

This era of strategic planning to accommodate unprecedented change began during the administration of Dean Wilson. After his retirement, it was carried forward by Dr. Borje K. Gustafsson, and it became the hallmark of his tenure as dean. The college hearkened back to its early days, to the time when another dean with a Scandinavian background, Dr. Sofus B. Nelson, led the college as veterinary medicine was defining itself as a profession. Educated in Sweden, Dr. Gustafsson served as interim dean for eight months and was appointed to the permanent position in April 1989. He served as dean until retiring 10 years later.

Six major planning exercises were conducted in the last decade of the twentieth century. The present program in veterinary medical education rests on a foundation of goals developed in planning documents from 1989 to 1991 and refined in later ones. Dr. Gustafsson pointed out, “This reflects a modern, responsive, and truly future-oriented college whose actions are governed more by anticipation of future challenges and opportunities than by current conditions.”

As dean, Dr. Gustafsson oversaw the most fundamental curriculum reform in the school’s history and the building of a federally funded \$22.7 mil-



lion Animal Disease Biotechnology Facility and a \$38 million teaching hospital. He encouraged the setting of long-term goals and the development of strategies to achieve them. Five-year funding priorities were established. Initially, these were equipping the new hospital, developing a scientific animal well-being program to determine the appropriate use of animals in research and teaching, establishing a margin of excellence fund, generating private support for the Joint Equine Program, and procuring an increase in scholarships and loans to help students offset the exploding costs of veterinary medical education.



Equine recovery pool in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital

The teaching hospital in McCoy Hall had produced veterinarians for half a century. But almost from the time it and Wegner Hall were built to undertake the education of 45 students and despite periodic improvements, the facilities were only marginally adequate.

Developments in radiology for diagnosis, treatment, and research resulted in a major expansion of the radiology facilities in McCoy Hall in 1954. A General Electric Maximar 250 III with its medical x-ray head mounted on an electrically operated crane and a diagnostic unit manufactured by Standard X-Ray and mounted from the ceiling made the facility the best in the country and perhaps the world at the time.

A proposal for a new veterinary medical library was developed in 1962. It was originally to have been built on the lawn between Wegner and McCoy Halls. WSU hoped to secure a National Institutes of Health grant for the estimated \$227,000 construction and wanted to have it completed by 1964. Instead, the library was established in a 7,700-square-foot addition to Wegner Hall. When Wegner Hall was gutted and doubled in size in 1980 so the VCAPP Department could share the building with the College of Pharmacy, the library was enlarged again. It presently has more than 60,000 volumes and serves 85,000 patrons annually. In April 1990, librarian Vicki Croft became a Distinguished Member of the Medical Librarian Association, its highest level of certification.

Major remodeling of McCoy Hall with the addition of a new large animal hospital was completed in 1961, and a second floor was added to the

north wing in 1971. A new small animal surgery suite was built in 1981, and the large animal surgery suite was extensively remodeled in 1989.

In time, though, WSU had the dubious distinction of educating veterinarians in the oldest facility used continuously as a teaching hospital in North America. By building codes as well as by the calendar, the facility had outlived its practical utility.

After nearly four years of planning, on October 5, 1991, groundbreaking took place on the new Veterinary Teaching Hospital, 111,000 square feet combining teaching, clinical laboratory, and animal care services. After two years of site preparation, including the removal of a half million cubic yards of soil, construction began in earnest. The \$38 million facility was completed in 1995 and occupied in September 1996. It is equipped with approximately \$10 million worth of state-of-the-art medical equipment.

The effort and resources marshaled to build the hospital forged a coalition among varying constituencies that has supported the college in its wide-ranging efforts to reshape itself in the last decade. The university, the Washington Legislature, and veterinary college alumni and friends who funded the hospital were able to use that relationship and the new teaching hospital as a match to obtain \$22.7 million in federal funds to build the Animal Disease Biotechnology Facility. Groundbreaking took place in 1995, and phase one of the 44,000-square-foot building was completed in 1996. Within that short time, the college's facilities went from marginal to among the best in the country. The successful capital facility campaigns

reflected widespread support for the college. The Animal Disease Biotechnology Facility was expected to open in 1999.

Allied with the effort to bring the physical plant up to date was a corresponding commitment to obtain the widest accreditation possible. The result is that the College of Veterinary Medicine currently has full accreditation from all four major accrediting agencies: the AVMA Council on Education, the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care, the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians, and the American Animal Hospital Association. Washington State University is among a few colleges nationwide with comprehensive sanctioning from professional organizations that supersedes federal, state, and university animal care and use requirements.

Having set itself on a course to meet the changing needs of veterinary medical education in the twenty-first century, WSU has become a national leader in curriculum innovation to meet contemporary societal issues. This primacy is attested by several national juried excellence awards.

Presently, there is a core curriculum plus selected areas of emphasis. Veterinary students can focus on clinical practice by taking small animal,



Dr. Erik H. Stauber

mixed animal, agricultural animal, or equine clinical programs. There are also research, aquatic animal health, non-traditional species, and international programs to serve the interests of students who are not planning careers in clinical veterinary medicine. These programs are the legacy of the \$150,000 Pew grants. They have been expanded with funding from additional federal grants, private donations, income from the veterinary teaching hospital, and from the reallocation of existing internal funds. These areas of emphasis within the college involve all three academic departments.

One aspect of curriculum development has been an interdisciplinary approach to research to develop scientists with both clinical and investigative competence. The Center for Reproductive Biology established in 1997, for example, is an interdepartmental program involving 12 departments and five colleges at WSU. The interdisciplinary approach also enables the college to bring formidable research talent to the problems of emerging diseases that can threaten both animal and human health. This program in emerging diseases combines the efforts of departments and sub-units and builds on existing programs in each of the major units and departments in the college.

When Drs. Winfred Jordan and Elizabeth Roberts graduated, they were anomalies in a student body otherwise entirely white and male. Beginning in the late 1970s, enrollment of female students surpassed that of males. For the last half of the 1990s, entering classes averaged 63 percent female, but Hispanics, African Americans, and Native Americans remained scarce.

Now, the college is committed to making its student body and faculty diverse. In 1997, Dr. Shirley Johnston, Class of 1974, became the first woman to head a department when she was appointed chair of Veterinary Clinical Sciences. She resigned in the fall of 1998 to become the first woman dean of a veterinary school, at Western University in Southern California.

Beginning with the new format for the annual conference in 1989, the role of continuing education has been studied and expanded. Efforts are in place to develop relationships with universities in Korea and Japan. Distance learning opportunities have been improved, as have programs in retraining for individual practitioners and companion animal health programs for the public.

Also, beginning in 1989, WSU introduced the first elective alternative laboratory course on basic surgical techniques, which uses the cadavers of animals euthanatized for humane reasons to avoid the use of surplus animals for that purpose. Ovariohysterectomy and castration are practiced on live animals acquired from local humane societies and returned for later adoption. A psychomotor skills laboratory with surgical instruments,



Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

plastic bone models, and other mechanical aids was introduced to help students develop appropriate manipulative skills before operating on live animals.

In 1991, the Center for the Study of Animal Well-being was proposed as a cooperative venture between the CVM and the Animal Science Department in the College of Agriculture and Home Economics. A steering committee was seated in 1992 to begin funding development for the \$2.2 million privately funded enterprise. In 1993, the center was approved by the University Senate.

Among the steering committee members was actress Betty White, who has made animal well-being a personal cause. She was introduced to WSU by her veterinarian, Dr. Robert Olds, Class of 1967, who also joined the committee. The center's goal is "to produce and distribute the best possible information on what factors of animal care are truly in the animals' best interest." The center's first faculty member, Dr. Ruth Newberry, was hired in 1996.

The CVM's first venture studying and treating animals outside the barnyard or home was the fur animal disease research begun in 1938. Over its history, non-domesticated animals have made up a small but exotic fraction of the veterinary hospital clientele. That is expected to grow in the school's second century. On an ad hoc basis, WSU commonly treats as many as 100 injured raptors per year. In 1997, Dr. Erik Stauber sought to make that work even more prominent by developing a program for raptor

medicine. Birds receive state-of-the-art emergency veterinary medical care and rehabilitation, drawing on the college faculty's expertise in raptor biology, medicine, radiology, ophthalmology, surgery, pathology, and parasitology.

For most of the past century, a veterinary education was designed to produce generalists who were repositories of knowledge that was bound to become largely obsolete over the course of their working lives. The thrust of veterinary education today is to allow students to concentrate on specialties and to make them problem solvers with skills to cope with challenges and career opportunities in the twenty-first century. But some aspects of the profession are timeless, such as the inclination to serve. Veterinarians like Drs. Charles W. Doney, Class of 1945, and Stanley B. Coe, Class of 1957, stand as models for that today. After Dr. Doney graduated, he opened a private practice in Seattle. In 1985, he began running a clinic to treat the pets of homeless people. Dr. Doney died two years later, but after reading that Dr. Doney's death threatened the free clinic's future, Dr. Coe, owner of the Elliot Bay Animal Hospital, took it over.

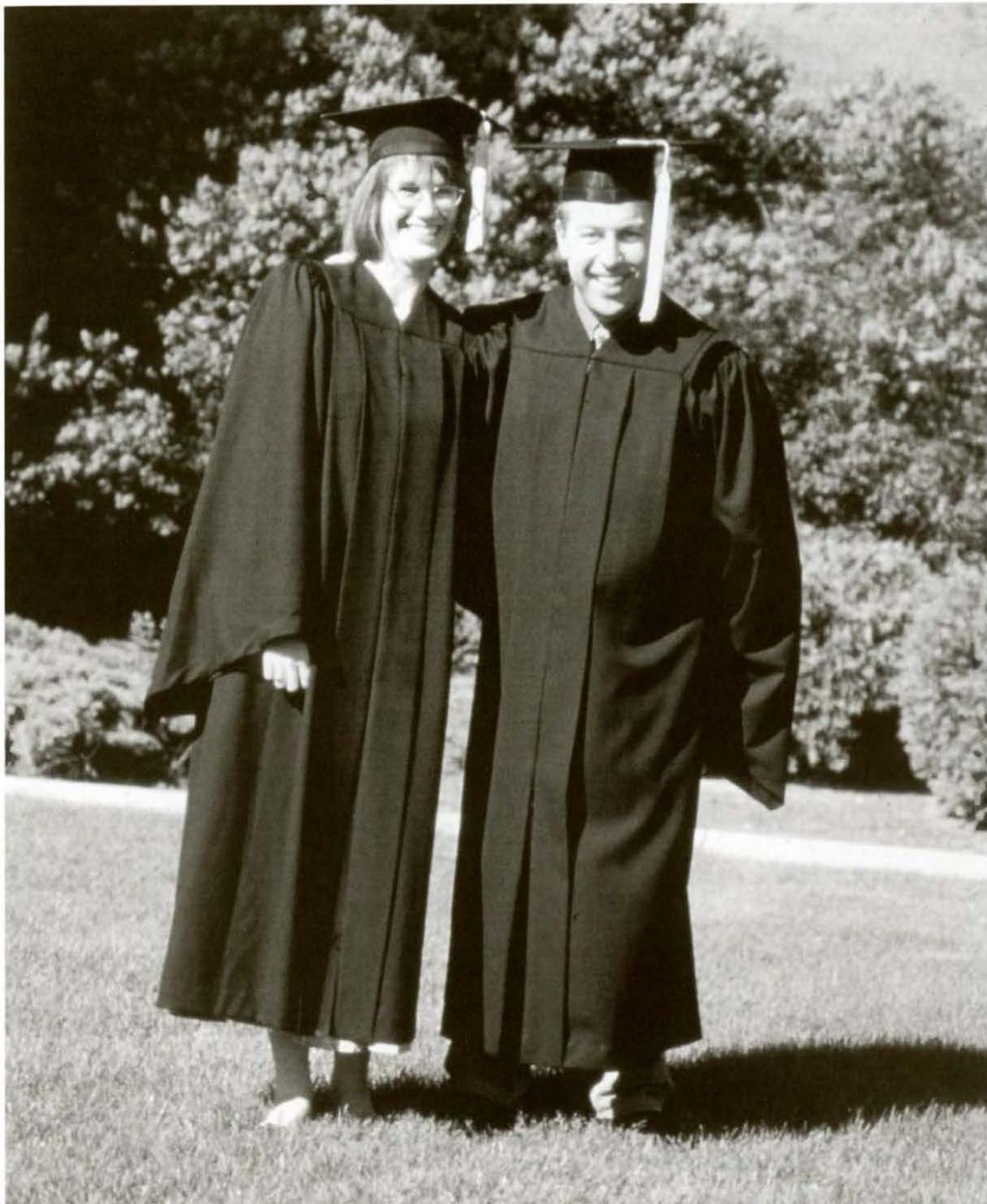


Two Saturdays a month in Seattle's Union Gospel Mission, Dr. Coe offers free medical treatment to the pets of homeless and indigent people at the Doney Memorial Pet Clinic. Twenty-five volunteers and four veterinarians assist Dr. Coe on a rotating schedule. Besides dogs and cats, they have treated rabbits, ferrets, pigs, and even an iguana. The clinic was featured in an issue of *People Magazine* in August 1997.

Dr. Caroline Engle, Class of 1967, built a notable record of public service making recommendations about veterinary programs to the U.S. State Department.

Shortly after he graduated, Dr. Fred L. VanGorkom, Class of 1983, entered the fields of international veterinary development and Christian mission. His initial service was in famine relief in Ethiopia with Christian Veterinary Mission (CVM) and World Concern. While working at a veterinary clinic in Addis Ababa, he met and later married Dr. Vicki Funkhouser, a veterinarian also working in veterinary development. The VanGorkoms moved to southern Ethiopia in the late 1980s as CVM workers in partnership with the Society of International Missionaries. Fred is the station manager, coordinating national and expatriate staff as they work on veterinary training and outreach, water development, forestry and agriculture projects, health projects, education, and the training and equipping of national evangelists. In that challenging environment, the VanGorkoms are successfully rearing their four children.

As the College of Veterinary Medicine enters its second century and a new millennium, it looks forward to training the next generation of





veterinarians in state-of-the-art clinical and laboratory facilities. It enjoys national renown as a research institution, close ties with colleagues in human medicine, and—with computer technology and other communication advances—intellectual exchange with veterinary and medical research and teaching institutions worldwide. The school is now large enough that its future is secured and changes in society in the last century ensure that a career in veterinary medicine is now open to everyone, regardless of sex or ethnic origin.

The profession continues to evolve, affording veterinarians new opportunities in clinical practice, public health, research, work with nontraditional species, and international practice. The Caring Call statue is a reminder of the foundation upon which this future is built. In its depiction of veterinary practice of the past it invokes memories of men and women who shaped the

WSU College of Veterinary Medicine, and it provokes meditation upon the relationship between people and animals, especially the sense of awe at being able to relieve suffering with the miracles of veterinary medicine. At heart, this is what the last hundred years have been about.



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