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# eVETS Connect

Quarterly news for alumni of the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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## April 2019

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# Contact Us

Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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# eVETS Connect

## Salmon Award for Distinguished Alumni Service

Quarterly news for alumni of the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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## Salmon Award for Distinguished Alumni Service

Established by the Alumni Association in 1986, the Daniel Elmer Salmon Award for Distinguished Alumni Service honors Cornell Veterinary College DVM graduates who have distinguished themselves in service to the profession, their communities or to the College.

The award is named in honor of Cornell's first DVM graduate, who is remembered for his pioneering work in controlling contagious animal diseases in the early 20th century. [D.E. Salmon was one of Dr. James Law's first students](#) when Cornell University opened its doors in 1868. He received the Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree in 1872 and entered practice in Newark, NJ. He continued his advanced research at Cornell and in 1876 he was awarded the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree. This was the first DVM degree to be awarded in the United States of America.

Help us honor our graduates by nominating a Cornell graduate. *Nominations are accepted throughout the year until May 1. **Should a nominator wish to re-nominate an alumnus/a from the previous year, a revised nomination form must be completed for the candidate to be considered.*** The recipient of the award is notified by September 1.

**[Submit your Nomination Online](#)**

## **Paper Nomination**

***Nomination should not exceed 1,000 words in total.***

Nomination form and supporting materials must be postmarked and received by **May 1, 2019** to be considered for 2019.

## **Previous Award Recipients**

Click on name of recipient to read article

Year Received	Name
1986	<a href="#">Arthur Gordon Danks* '33, Ellis Pierson Leonard* '34, Frederick O. Wright* '41</a>
1987	<a href="#">John D. Murray* '39</a>
1989	Stephen J. Roberts* '38
1991	Robert E. Clark* '52
1994	Richard C. Grambow '57, Robert W. Kirk* '46, Richard A. Smith* '51
1996	<a href="#">Stanley M. Aldrich* '50, Louis C. Schimoler* '47</a>
1997	John J. Brennan '52
1998	Francis H. Fox *'45
1999	<a href="#">Robert V. Manning* '55</a>
2000	Robert E. Lynk '61, Harold W. Zweighaft* '56
2001	Robert B. Hillman '55
2002	<a href="#">John D. Shumway '56</a>
2003	<a href="#">George W. Abbott* '45</a>
2004	<a href="#">Robert F. Kahrs '54</a>
2008	Alexander de Lahunta '58

2009	Fredric W. Scott '62
2010	Stephen J. Ettinger '64
2011	N. Joel Edwards '64
2012	Jeanne A. Barsanti '74
2013	<a href="#">James F. Peddie '65</a>
2014	<a href="#">Lila T. Miller '77 (CALS '74)</a>
2015	<a href="#">Paul D. Pion '83</a>
2016	<a href="#">Robert R. Marshak '45</a>
2017	<a href="#">Ann E. Dwyer '83</a> , <a href="#">Donald H. Lein '57</a>
2018	<a href="#">N. Bruce Haynes '52*</a> (awarded posthumously)  PDF icon <a href="#">Salmon Award</a> <a href="#">Actual Speech.pdf</a> (223.54 KB) by daughter Beth Haynes Hadley
* – deceased	

📅 April 11, 2018   📁 Alumni Association News   🔍 Alumni Association News, February 2018

## Contact Us

Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine  
Alumni Affairs & Development

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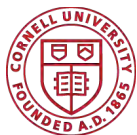
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## Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

CVM > News >

# Center for Veterinary Business and Entrepreneurship launches

🐾 Thursday, April 4, 2019 - 10:20am

What does cash flow and commercialization have to do with caring for cats or cows? Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) believes the answer is, quite simply, everything.

This April, CVM launched the Center for Veterinary Business and Entrepreneurship (CVBE), a new inter-disciplinary program intended to spur research, training and outreach in veterinary business to improve animal healthcare.

Businesses are the vehicle for delivering veterinary medical services and developing new life-saving products. Yet, veterinary academia has largely ignored the business of veterinary medicine as a focus of research and scholarship. The college is taking a new approach with this unique program that unites expertise from the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine and the Cornell SC Johnson College of Business.

“I’m thrilled to announce the launch of the Center for Veterinary Business & Entrepreneurship in collaboration with the Cornell SC Johnson College of Business,” says Lorin D. Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. ’94, the Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine. “The center is the culmination of extensive needs-based assessments and planning, and will answer the urgent need in the veterinary profession to provide essential training for students, faculty and alumni to launch, manage and succeed in a business or organization of any kind.”

“We are very pleased to support this new venture with the veterinary college,” says Dr. Kevin F. Hallock, dean of the SC Johnson College of Business. “It’s an excellent opportunity to create an interdisciplinary collaboration between our institutions, and to help veterinarians strengthen their businesses and explore entrepreneurship more fully.”

The CVBE focuses on four programmatic pillars: education, economics research, entrepreneurship and intrapreneurship. Through its educational program development efforts, the center will offer a variety of educational programs, including a new D.V.M. certificate program, as well as post-graduate executive education. The center will establish a veterinary economics research program through a strategic faculty hire and collaborations with Cornell's Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management. Its entrepreneurship program will focus on creating a robust pipeline from scientific discoveries to commercialization, and intrapreneurship activities will focus on creating an environment that incentivizes and supports innovation and improvement.



Dr. Kevin Hallock (left), dean of the SC Johnson College of Business; Jodi Korich, D.V.M. '97, associate dean for education; and Lorin D. Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. '94, the Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine. Photos by Rachel Philipson.

## Crafting curriculum

To lay a solid foundation for the design of the new business management curriculum, the college conducted a needs-based assessment, surveying and interviewing a diverse group of veterinarians. Additionally, an expert working group of animal health industry leaders, corporate practice managers, private practice owners and veterinary faculty was assembled to identify the knowledge, skills and attributes necessary to support business success. Once implemented, all students will be expected to demonstrate mastery of the core competencies, while elective courses will offer students an opportunity to acquire higher-level competencies tailored to their career interests. Students who complete an eight-credit business pathway will receive a certificate in veterinary business management.

“Our uniquely integrated curriculum will embed the principles of well-run businesses and organizations into students’ medical and surgical training,” says Jodi Korich, D.V.M. ’97, associate dean for education. “We’re using a lot of case-based exercises and on- and off-campus learning experiences at hospitals and companies to provide students with living laboratories in which to observe the business principles in action. We are working to develop an extensive network of practices and companies with whom to partner on this endeavor.”



Lorin D. Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. '94,  
the Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine

## Vital training

An active search for two new faculty to lead the CVBE programming is now underway. One faculty member will spearhead the veterinary business and management curriculum, developing a team-taught program spanning the four-year curriculum that will provide a solid foundation in business management. The second hire will be a tenure-track position in veterinary economics with a joint appointment at Dyson. This new hire will investigate economic strategy and contribute to evidence-based recommendations to improve veterinary healthcare delivery.

While this search continues, part of this new curriculum is already in motion. Two business courses currently available to veterinary students include Veterinary Practice Management, taught by Dr. Robert Karpman, professor of practice at the Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management; and Agile Innovation, taught by Dr. Wesley Sine, faculty at Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management. Agile Innovation is a uniquely experiential course that integrates with the Cornell Animal Health Hackathon and teaches students creative problem-solving skills that can be applied to animal health challenges.

Sine explains that learning to adapt and innovate is vital for veterinarians looking to own, grow and contribute to any practice. Basic business knowledge is also essential. “Someone can be the best veterinarian in the world, but if they’re running a clinic and don’t understand cash flow analysis or basic finances and marketing, that could destroy their business,” says Sine.

Karpman, who worked as an orthopedic surgeon and chief operating officer of a hospital before shifting to teaching business management to students in the life sciences, noted also that these problems exist in both human and animal medical training programs. “This is a problem in a lot of professional schools,” he says. “You learn the science side, you learn how to treat patients and diagnose their problems, but you don’t know how to manage a business.” Rather than

learning through trial and error, the new center will help veterinarians build and contribute to effective practices right out of the starting gate, Karpman adds.

Beyond benefiting individual veterinarians and practices, this kind of training has a collective benefit.

“Many major companies are trying to do good things in the world. They need leaders who understand the science behind doing that,” Sine explains. “Veterinary business education at Cornell will send out a cadre of great veterinarians who know how to lead people, innovate and manage teams in a way that enables them to address these relevant problems in the world.”

**“Someone can be the best veterinarian in the world, but if they’re running a clinic and don’t understand cash flow analysis or basic finances and marketing, that could destroy their business.”**

- Dr. Wesley Sine

CVM alumni association executive board member Jorge L. Colón '92, D.V.M. '95, believes the benefits of the new center can go even further. As the owner of an equine veterinary practice in Lexington, Kentucky, Colón has seen firsthand the values of business knowledge. “Shifting one’s mentality from being a veterinarian, to being in the business of providing veterinary medical care — it just changes everything,” says Colón. “The possibilities of this center are endless. It could be central in minimizing all the negative effects of financial instability, such as depression or poor work-life balance. If people can take better care of themselves, they can take better care of the people around them, and the society around them.”

## Bringing scientific discovery to market

As the structure of coursework begins to crystallize, entrepreneurial training and scientific marketization is also taking shape. The CVBE will comprise a novel engine for improving the translation of science into commercialization. Leveraging the entrepreneurial expertise of the SC Johnson College of Business, processes will be developed to help CVM researchers screen their innovations for potential commercialization much more efficiently. Ideas will subsequently be readied for presentation to potential investors or fed to incubators, such as Cornell’s McGovern Center, for the next step of the start-up process.

The processes developed at the CVBE will enable CVM to expand its entrepreneurial portfolio, which already contains successes such as Embark, a dog DNA-testing founded by Dr. Adam Boyko in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, and the Cornell Collar, a commercial throat support device for race horses that minimizes airway obstructions developed by James Law Professor of Surgery Dr. Norm Ducharme. In fact, since 2003, CVM has licensed 470 inventions through the Cornell Center for Technology Licensing, and averaged 13 percent per year revenue growth in the past five years.

## Bright futures

The launch of the center signifies a new frontier for the college, and one that will define the institution long into the future.

“This is the way veterinary medicine is going,” says Karpman. “I really congratulate the vet school. This is the first center of business and entrepreneurship established at any veterinary school in the United States, and they’re taking the lead in this area.”

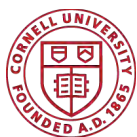
**“It’s exciting to embark on an initiative of this scope.”**

- Jodi Korich, D.V.M. '97

“It’s exciting to embark on an initiative of this scope,” says Korich. “We are confident that this new center will position our graduates for success in a wide variety of careers, facilitate the transition of biomedical discoveries to commercial products that benefit more animals, harness the power of

economics to strengthen animal health businesses and organizations, and provide a platform for veterinary academia to participate in critical conversations about the future of veterinary animal health.”

By Lauren Cahoon Roberts



## Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

CVM > News >

### Caring for the Best: Cornell at Westminster

🐾 Monday, February 18, 2019 - 2:07pm



From the velvety jowls of the Neapolitan Mastiff, to the slender frame of the Saluki, to the bouffant hairdo of the Dandie Dinmont Terrier, doggy diversity is on its most glorious display at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. But whether a pup is of sporting, working or toy ilk, they will all need veterinary care at one point or another — and, for the best of the best show dogs this year, Cornell veterinarians were there to provide it.

[Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine](#) and its Stamford, Connecticut-based satellite clinic [Cornell University Veterinary Specialists](#) (CUVS) are now the official provider of veterinary care at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show as part of a multi-year deal. Cornell veterinarians and students made their debut at the event last week, staffing both an informational booth and a veterinary medical care stations at the three-day event.

“It was a tremendously rewarding and educational opportunity for our veterinarians and students to provide care to the show dogs and consultation to their owners,” said Lorin D. Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. '94, the Austin O. Hooey Dean of



Veterinary Medicine. “We were honored to be able to showcase and share our expertise with such a passionate community of dog lovers, and we look forward to building on this relationship in the years to come.”



Cornell veterinarians, students and staff stand outside the veterinary care station at the Westminster dog show.

## A new partnership

The collaboration is thanks largely to Ed Hershey, a longtime board member of the Westminster Kennel Club. After sitting next to Warnick at a Westminster dinner three years ago, the two of them struck up a friendship that led to Hershey's recommendation that Cornell provide official veterinary care for the show.

Hershey also wanted to highlight Cornell's veterinary expertise, with which he had become well-acquainted. Hershey currently has two dogs, Crush the boxer and Kisses the French bulldog, who are patients of CUVS. Clinicians there developed a unique treatment plan for Kisses, who has a rare form of cancer. “The care they received was really terrific,” said Hershey. “And I thought it would be great if we could inform people more of all the work that’s going on veterinary medicine right now.”

Hershey pitched the idea to Westminster and Fox Sports, which produced several video vignettes featuring Cornell veterinarians and special canine patients cases. Four of these vignettes aired on the Jumbotron during the Best in Show event in Madison Square Garden, and key portions aired on network television during the event.





A Neapolitan Mastiff competes at Madison Square Garden.

## Sharing knowledge

Education on veterinary medicine carried over to Cornell's informational booth at the WCK Dog Show. There, college veterinarians and veterinary students chatted with visitors about specialty and general veterinary medicine topics, including [theriogenology](#) (breeding and genetics); [sports medicine and rehabilitation](#); and [dentistry and oral surgery](#). Each day of the three-day event, hundreds of show-goers stopped by at Cornell's booth to ask questions or simply share how much Cornell had made an impact on them and their pets.

"I had a great experience," said third-year veterinary student Amanda Stewart. "A lot of the visitors have been really thankful for Cornell and have just come up to say, 'Thank you, Cornell saved my dog'."

"We've had a lot of high school students that want to become vet students come up to us," Stewart added. "I have also wanted to be a veterinarian since I was a kid. I told them I love vet school, have learned a lot and that it's doable, it's just hard work."

Brian Collins, D.V.M. '94, section chief of the [Community Practice Service](#) at the Cornell University Hospital for Animals (CUHA), fielded a series of questions, ranging from raw diet, to toenail injuries, to intrahepatic liver shunts.



Third-year veterinary student Amanda Stewart and Brian Collins, D.V.M. '94, chat with visitors to the Cornell information booth.

## High-stakes care

As a Westminster first-timer, Collins noted some differences between his patients back in Ithaca vs. those at the Westminster show. "Most of the animals we treat back home are pets who aren't involved with showing or

breeding, but their health is of course just as important,” he said. “But when we think about those patients, we might not be thinking as much about what it might be passing down to his or her puppies...we’re usually thinking more about the individual patient’s health.”

Treating show dogs, and treating them at Westminster, is the definition of high-stakes care. Dr. Lacey Rosenberg, a member of CUHA’s theriogenology service, has experience breeding and showing Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. “For people in the dog showing world, it’s all about getting to this point — getting to Westminster. There is no higher honor.”

Corene Bruhns, a second-year student and a recipient of the Westminster Kennel Foundation Scholarship, was up for the challenge of working at Westminster. “At school, we have the time to work through the entire case. Here, people are nervous, dogs are nervous, it’s a very different environment, but everyone was really supportive of everything, so while it was definitely a bit nerve-wracking it was also really exciting.”

Bruhns and her fellow veterinarians and students saw a range of issues, from non-serious conditions such as a light limp and diarrhea, to the more concerning — including a possible case of pyometra, or infection in the uterus. “That was the one case we sent out to get immediate medical attention,” she said.



Dr. Nadine Fiani provided show goers with information about her specialty, dentistry and oral surgery, as well as other veterinary care topics.

## For the love of dogs

Despite the pressure, the experience was positive for the on-call veterinarians and students. “People were really excited to see Cornell here,” said Bruhns. “It’s a well-recognized name, and people were happy to come over to just talk to us.”

This exposure to show dogs and the people who care for them was beneficial for students, said Dr. Mariana Diel de Amorim, a theriogenologist at CUHA. “They really get an understanding of how much it takes to show a dog. It’s a lot of investment. These are pure bred, health-vested animals, these people usually pay more money than they make doing this,” said Diel de Amorim. “They don’t do it for the money — they do it for love.”

These owners were also enthusiastic about Cornell’s care and expertise. “I was thrilled to see the enthusiasm Cornell sparked in dog owners and other show visitors,” said Dr. Susan Hackner, CMO and COO at Cornell University



Veterinary Specialists. “From owners of patients we treated at the show, to previous clients who stopped by to say thank you, it was just a wonderful reception and a privilege to be able to work with the Westminster Kennel Club.”

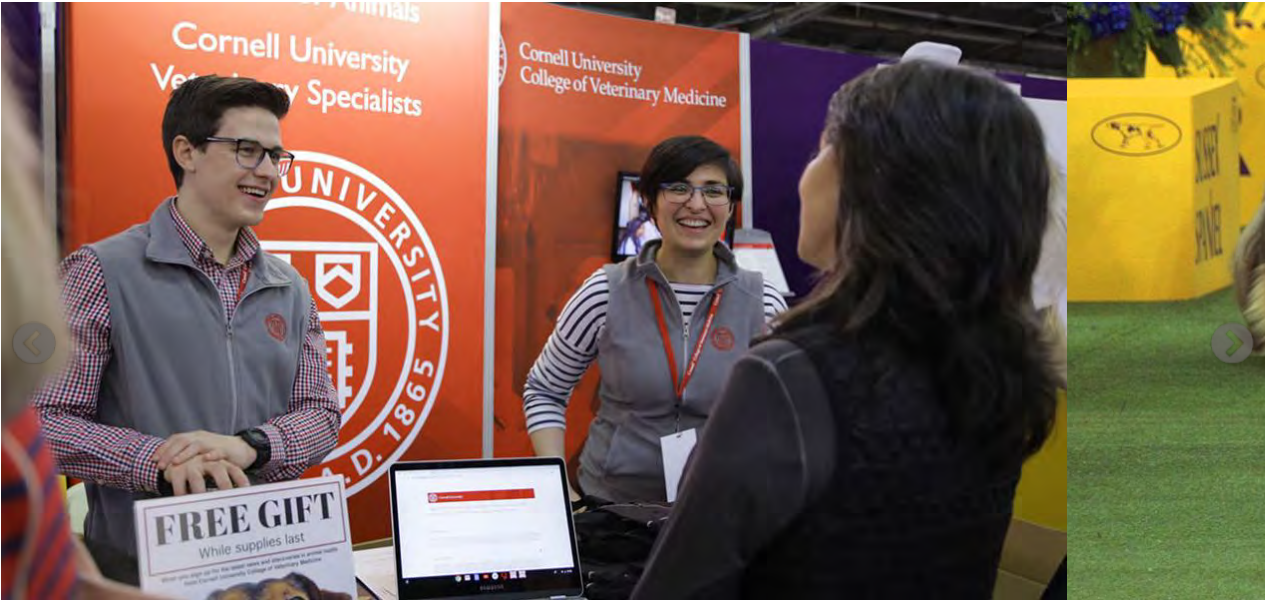
With both dog lovers and Cornell veterinarians learning from one another, the Cornell-Westminster partnership promises to be a fruitful one for years to come.

*By Lauren Cahoon Roberts*

*Photography and video by Esy Casey*

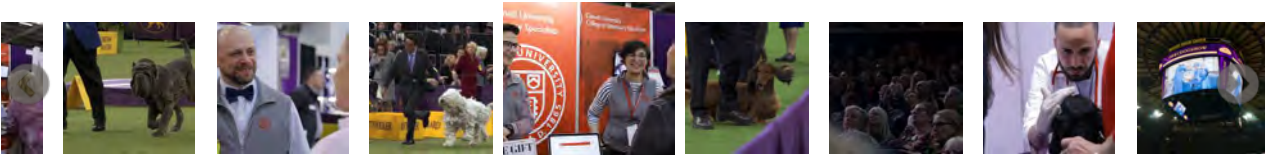
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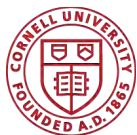
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At the 2019 Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. Photo by Esy Casey.

At the 2019 Westmi





## Hackathon looks to solve animal health issues

🐾 Wednesday, January 30, 2019 - 3:55pm

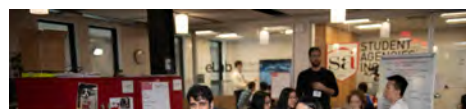


Student teams brainstorm ideas at the Cornell Animal Health Hackathon at eHub in Collegetown. Photo by Rachel Philipson.

Following an oil spill, the race is on to save affected wildlife, especially birds. It takes three workers 45 minutes to clean each animal with soapy water, a method that hasn't changed in the last 20 years.

A team of students has designed a new product that could save millions of birds and other wildlife. The Lean Preen Machine was unveiled at the 2019 Cornell Animal Health Hackathon, Jan. 27 at eHub in Collegetown.

In addition to soap and water, the team's design incorporates a sonicator, an existing technology used by jewelers and dentists, which sends safe, high-frequency sound waves through the liquid. The waves agitate and remove oil particles from feather barbules in a fraction of the time soapy water and splashing can take. In addition, the design frees up one worker per cleaning unit to attend to other animals. That's important as many birds die while waiting to get cleaned.



The Lean Preen Machine team walked away with two of four \$2,000 prizes at the hackathon, winning Most Innovative Solution and the People's Choice Award.

"From the judges' perspective, we were really impressed that they were able to take an existing technology and very quickly convert it into something that could be used and that there is a huge unmet need for. And with the People's Choice, the audience obviously agreed," said Jodi Korich, D.V.M. '97, associate dean of education at Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine and one of six judges.



The hackathon was co-hosted by the College of Veterinary Medicine and Entrepreneurship at Cornell and offered a total of \$8,000 in prize money. Photo by Rachel Philipson.

The hackathon was co-hosted by the College of Veterinary Medicine and Entrepreneurship at Cornell and offered a total of \$8,000 in prize money. Approximately 125 students formed 17 teams to develop business solutions to a diverse set of issues in veterinary medicine. The teams – featuring students from nearly every college and school on campus, and some from other universities – developed their products in a blitzkrieg of activity over the weekend. Teams consulted with mentors, and IBM offered a workshop on design thinking. Products were judged on such criteria as relevance to veterinary medicine, scale of impact, novelty, commercial viability, financial feasibility, marketing potential and innovation.

"We saw a range of different products and solutions that really show the breadth of veterinary medicine," Korich said.

The Lean Preen Machine team went through a few iterations – including employing a pedal-powered laundry machine and using gentle water jets, like in a hot tub – before settling on the sonicator, said team member MJ Sun, a fourth-year Cornell veterinary student.

"We spent a long time trying to make sure this product is safe for birds," Sun said. "Their bones are hollow and are connected to other [delicate] parts of their body, so it would be traumatic if we damaged those crucial parts."

Another team designed a system called Farm Speak, a subscription service to help farmers and non-English speaking laborers overcome language barriers to report on cow health at dairy farms. Farm Speak won for Best Market Ready Solution.

When migrant workers who interact daily with cows detect signs of disease, they can mark it on laminated sheets with diagrams and categories in their native language. These sheets are then photographed by a tablet in the barn, and an app automatically collates all the information for the farmer to download from a database.

"We wanted to come up with a solution that would help but at the same time be cost-effective," said Inder Khanuja, a Cornell graduate student and a Farm Speak team member. According to the team, early detection to prevent mastitis on a dairy farm can increase milk production by 9 percent, and the service would cost a farmer about \$100 per month.



"We saw a range of different products and solutions that really show the breadth of veterinary medicine," said Jodi Korich, D.V.M. '97, associate dean of education.

The Stay on Track team – which proposed a simple, cheap and quick assessment for signs of orthopedic disease in racehorses – took the Best Vet Med Healthcare Solution award.



Judge Sarah Cutler Tew, senior manager for medical outreach at IDEXX, said entrepreneurship plays an important role in veterinary medicine.

“You can have really big problems with hard answers, but there are lots of times where for a smaller problem, you need a fresh set of eyes,” she said. “Big companies have great resources but tend to move slowly, so the entrepreneurship will really bring new technology and new approaches to solving problems.”

By Krishna Ramanujan

*This story also appeared in the Cornell Chronicle.*

Wednesday, January 30, 2019 - 3:51pm

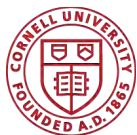
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Animal Health Hackathon 2019. Photo by Rachel Philipson.

Animal Health Hack



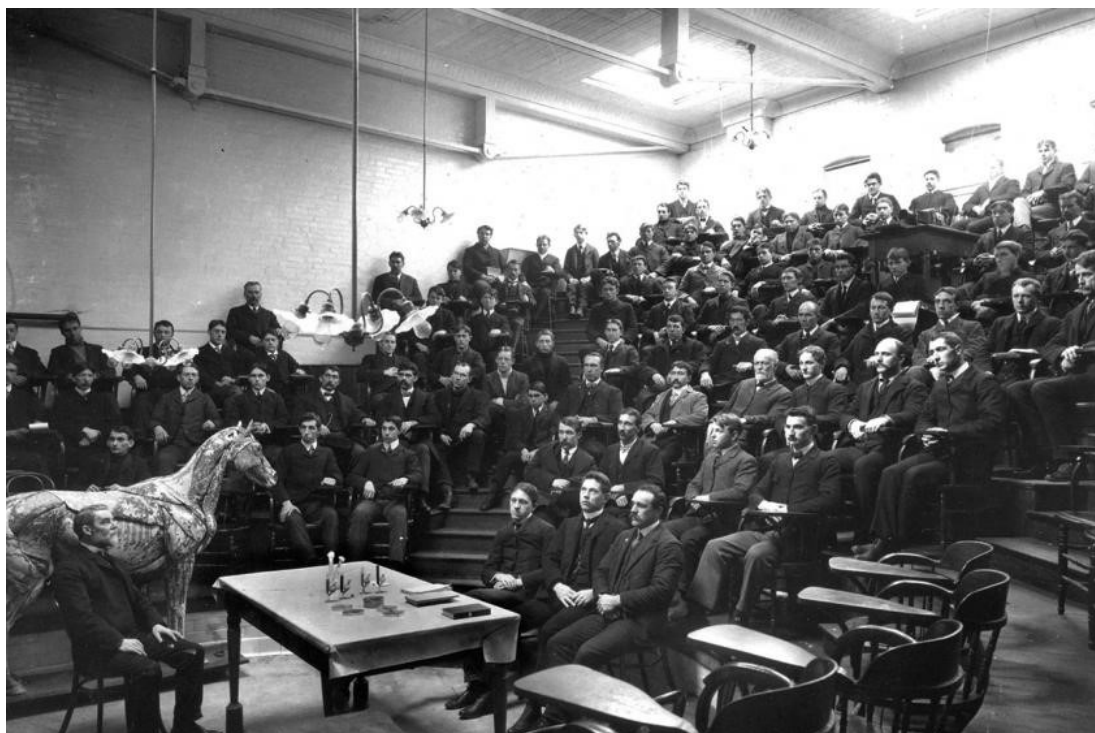


## Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

CVM > News >

### Our 125th Anniversary: A note from Dean Warnick

🐾 Wednesday, March 20, 2019 - 3:46pm



On this day 125 years ago, the New York State Legislature passed an act establishing a State Veterinary College at Cornell University. Signed into law by Governor Roswell P. Flower, the act appropriated \$50,000 “for the purpose of constructing and equipping suitable buildings for such college upon the grounds of said university, at Ithaca, New York.” This not only formally established our College of Veterinary Medicine, it was also the first state college at Cornell University.

This moment was the culmination of tireless efforts on the part of our founding dean, Dr. James Law, whose more than twenty years of letters, visits, speeches, editorials and other lobbying efforts finally paid off in the spring of 1894.

Indeed, we have Law to thank for making veterinary medicine the respected and rigorous field of study that it is today. The Cornell Board of Trustees summed it up well when they wrote this note upon Law’s retirement in 1908:

*“Until he began to teach at Cornell, no American College had ever regarded veterinary medicine as deserving a place in the college curriculum. [The veterinary college now has] entrance requirements as high as those of many medical*

*schools, and graduating men everywhere recognized as trained scientists. In less than forty years a new profession has been created in the United States and the praise and honor for doing this are in no small measure Dr. Law's"*

Law created a legacy that is as vibrant as ever. Our vision remains the same — to lead, enable and inspire others to attain a healthier world for animals and people. We've had many notable moments throughout this century and a quarter — from graduating the first woman veterinarian, to establishing the first ambulatory clinic in the country, to facilitating the first puppies born by in vitro fertilization, we've worked hard to earn our place as one of the top veterinary colleges in the world. This drive to better our world continues as we take the lead in new frontiers such as cancer research; planetary and public health; and business and entrepreneurship.

Ultimately, throughout our 125 years, our strength as a college is in the people who make up our community and the dedication and skill each of you bring. I thank you for the many ways you have contributed to our success and in making the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine an institution that inspires pride and improves the world.

As we reflect on the richness of our foundations, let us look forward with excitement towards the future.

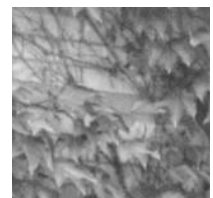
Sincerely,

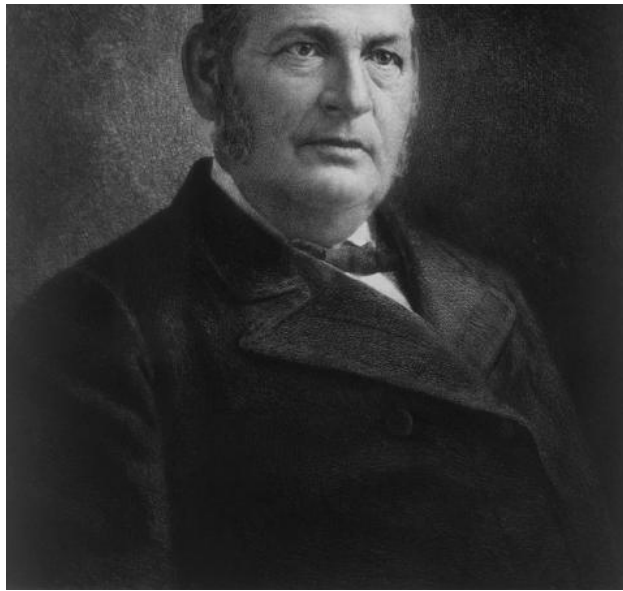
Dean Lorin Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. '94



Wednesday, March 20, 2019 - 5:03pm

 Image





Governor Roswell P. Flower signed the act establishing the State Veterinary College at Cornell University in 1894.



The first six faculty





NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
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## NIU welcomes new era

*Historic Investiture of President Freeman brings together Huskie community*

*April 5, 2019*

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“Huskies love doing it the hard way. Huskies aren’t afraid to take risk, fail and get back up. Huskies support each other. And most of all, a Huskie is someone who will never give up no matter what. All of this is who NIU is, and these are values that Dr. Lisa Freeman embodies,” said Board of Trustees Chair Dennis Barsema (left) as he, former chair Wheeler Coleman (center) and hundreds of others honored NIU President Lisa Freeman (right). *Source: Northern Illinois University*

**DeKalb, Ill.** — Tradition and a forward-looking enthusiasm intertwined Friday as a community of proud Huskies celebrated the investiture of **NIU President Lisa Freeman** (<https://www.niu.edu/president/>).

Hundreds of students, faculty, staff, alumni and Huskies in spirit, including many of Dr. Freeman’s family, friends, mentors and colleagues, gathered for an afternoon of grandeur at Boutell Memorial Concert Hall to honor NIU’s 13th president – the first female president in the university’s nearly 125-year history.

With a newly revised **university mission** (<https://www.niu.edu/mission/>) empowering students to transform the world, a national reputation as a student-centered research institution and Huskies active on seven continents, NIU is poised for a promising future that “cannot be underestimated.”

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“I want to leave you today knowing this,” Dr. Freeman told the crowd, “that our Huskie community is dedicated, smart, deeply caring, innovative and persistent – relentless, really – when it comes to learning, creating and living in ways that champion and advance our students and society.”

Since her days earning advanced degrees in biology and physiology and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from Cornell University, along with a Ph.D. in pharmacology from The Ohio State University – later working as a postdoctoral fellow and research scientist – Dr. Freeman has exhibited that Huskie grit she embraced upon arriving on campus in 2010.

In her, students see someone fully engaged in their endeavors, said Khiree Cross, president of the **Student Association** (<https://www.niu.edu/student-association/about/leadership.shtml>).

“The president is always there,” he said.

Dr. Freeman first joined NIU as vice president of research and graduate studies, soon advancing to the position of executive vice president and provost. Appointed acting president in July of 2017, Dr. Freeman became president in September of 2018.

In **historic measure** (<https://www.niu.edu/investiture/about/index.s>) Friday, a 14-karat yellow gold medallion and an intricately designed mahogany staff – known as a university mace – were bestowed upon the university’s leader by **NIU Board of Trustees Chair Dennis Barsema** (<https://www.niu.edu/board/about/trustees/bar>) and former chair Wheeler Coleman.

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Both items were first created and used more than 50 years ago at the inauguration of former President Rhoten Smith. At the time, President Smith challenged the university to focus on “excellence and opportunity,” Dr. Freeman told the crowd.

The sentiment he shared then, Dr. Freeman continued, endures at NIU: “The college degree has become the passport to achievement, to influence and affluence, and to leadership in 20th century America. We must find ways to make more widely available opportunities for earning this passport to the good life.”



(<https://newsroom.niu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/NIU-Investiture-3.jpg>)

With a newly revised university mission empowering students to transform the world, a national reputation as a student-centered research institution and Huskies active on seven continents, NIU is poised for a promising future that “cannot be underestimated,” President Lisa Freeman told the crowd. *Source: Northern Illinois University*

### ‘She shows up’

Faculty, staff and colleagues spoke of Dr. Freeman’s innate leadership skills, inclusive decision-making, passion, integrity, vision and commitment to NIU. Her appointment as the first female president represents a monumental step at NIU, said alumnus Catherine Doederlein, Supportive Professional Staff Council president.

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She and alumna Holly Nicholson, Operating Staff Council president, described an engaged president with **office hours** (<https://www.niu.edu/president/about/office-hours.shtml>) for students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members to visit, someone who's gotten up early on a snow day to deliver doughnuts to Operating Staff members clearing the grounds.

Having first met Dr. Freeman 15 years ago as members of the Class of Fellows of the American Council of Education, J. Michael Durnil, Ph.D., reflected on Dr. Freeman's wry wit and humility.

"As I read your recently adopted set of values – of curiosity and creativity, of equity and inclusion, of ethics and integrity, and of service and stewardship – I gently smiled to myself that, in fact, your community has those all embodied in your leader. And, most importantly, Lisa will model those values as she works with all of you to create the future for NIU and maybe even more importantly those who come after her," said Durnil, president and CEO of the Simon Youth Foundation.

Through both her presence and words, Dr. Freeman "shows up," said **Katy Jaekel** (<https://www.cedu.niu.edu/cahe/about/faculty/jaekel.shtml>), Ph.D., assistant professor of Adult and Higher Education. As a member of the faculty senate and the Presidential Commission on Gender and Sexual Identity, as well as faculty adviser for the LGBTQ student organization, Prism, Jaekel asked members of each group what they would say about the president.

They spoke of their sense of belonging on campus, Jaekel said, empowered by Dr. Freeman's advocacy and support. She's real. She listens.

fbclid=IwAR2l3HX3CNYzM12zQP3ZKH8RkmJ-Dt\_JVIDyNueelEByZaN462L6ZywTZNM#.XLYwEEuV

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“In this way, President Freeman has let students know they matter, that their voices count,” Jaekel said.

### **Integrity and vision**

Dr. Freeman’s investiture attracted elected officials, including State Sen. Cristina Castro, D-Elgin; State Rep. Jeff Keicher, R-Sycamore; former State Rep. and Board of Trustees member Bob Pritchard; DeKalb County Board Member Steve Faivre; DeKalb Mayor Jerry Smith; and Sycamore Mayor Curt Lang.

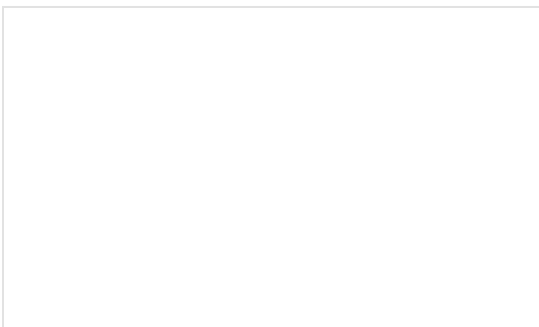
The day also drew those who’ve known Dr. Freeman since her own higher education journey began at Cornell University and continued into her years as associate vice president for innovation – and a devoted Wildcat – at Kansas State University.

“I’ve never known anymore more likely or more capable of advancing through the ranks to become a university president than Lisa Freeman,” said Ronald Trewyn, Ph.D., the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility liaison at Kansas State University.

He and others lauded Dr. Freeman’s natural ability to lead and inspire.

“It will always be about all of you out there and what’s best for the institution,” Trewyn told the crowd. “It will never be about her.”

Dr. Freeman’s experience and expertise are broad and extensive, said Cherilyn Murer, a friend, NIU College of Law alumna and past chair of the Board of Trustees.





(<https://newsroom.niu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/NIU-Investiture-2.jpg>)

A 14-karat yellow gold medallion and an intricately designed mahogany staff – known as a university mace – were bestowed upon President Lisa Freeman. *Source: Northern Illinois University*

“But what is most defining of Dr. Lisa Freeman is her integrity and vision,” added Murer, president and CEO of CGM Advisory Group LLC.

Put simply, Board of Trustees Chair Barsema said, Dr. Freeman knows what it means to be a Huskie.

“Huskies love doing it the hard way. Huskies aren’t afraid to take risk, fail and get back up. Huskies support each other,” he said. “And most of all, a Huskie is someone who will never give up no matter what. All of this is who NIU is, and these are values that Dr. Lisa Freeman embodies.”

Other speakers at the ceremony included alumna Carol Crenshaw, who spoke on behalf of the NIU Foundation; and alumnus Peter Garrity, president of the NIU Alumni Association.

### **The reconstruction of the University Mace**

In an effort to bring new life to the **university mace**

(<https://www.niu.edu/investiture/about/index.s>  
bestowed upon her, President Freeman sought input from the NIU community to

choose quotations that resonate today. The mace originally featured engraved quotations from ancient philosophers, writers and founding fathers. School of Art Professor James Obermeier and his students reconstructed the mace to include six sides, each bearing a quote.

Among them:

“Public education is our greatest pathway to opportunity in America. So we need to invest in and strengthen our public universities today, and for generations to come.” – Michelle Obama

“Education is not the means of showing people how to get what they want. Education is an exercise by means of which enough people, it is hoped, will learn to want what is worth having.” – Ronald Reagan

“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.” – Aristotle

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.” – Martin Luther King, Jr.

“Education does not change the world. Education changes the people who will change the world.” – Paulo Freire

“Forward, Together Forward.” – NIU Fight Song

**Media Contact: Jami Kunzer**  
**(mailto:jkunzer@niu.edu)**

### **About NIU**

Northern Illinois University is a student-centered, nationally recognized public research university, with expertise that benefits its region and spans the globe in a wide variety of fields, including the sciences,

humanities, arts, business, engineering, education, health and law. Through its main campus in DeKalb, Illinois, and education centers for students and working professionals in Chicago, Hoffman Estates, Naperville, Oregon and Rockford, NIU offers more than 100 courses of study while serving a diverse and international student body.

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— *Jami Kunzer*

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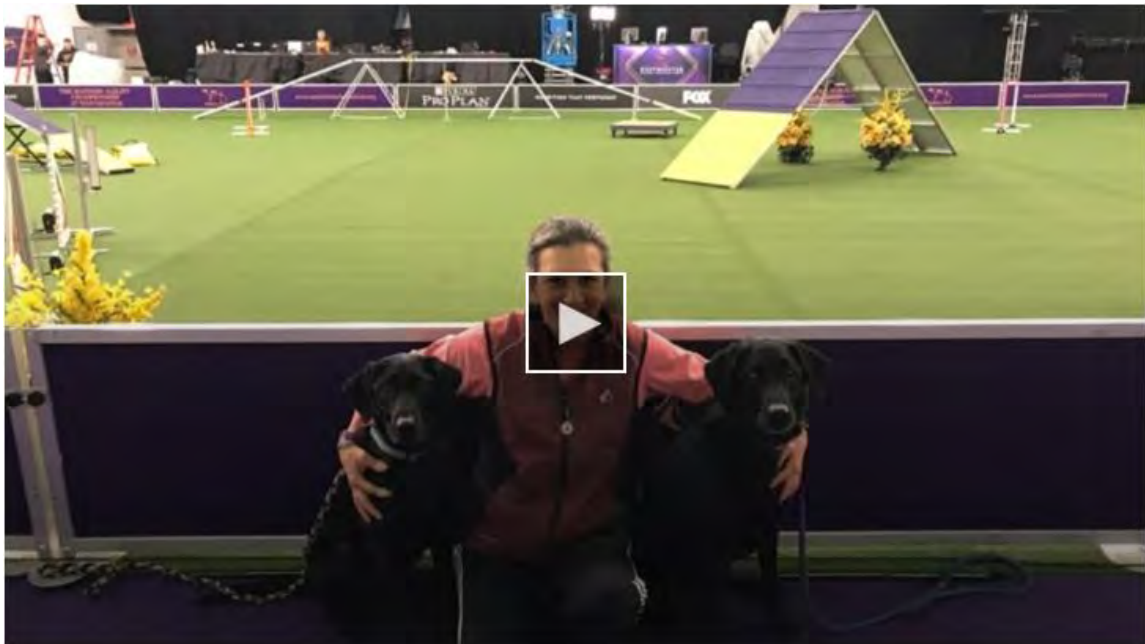
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## Former Syracuse-area veterinarian in agility finals at Westminster dog show

by Laura Hand  
Sunday, February 10th 2019

AA



*Dr. Liz Dole with Lexie and Chelsea, who competed in agility classes at Westminster Kennel Club this weekend. Chelsea was in the ribbons (watch the video!)*

Dr. Liz Dole has a passion for Black Labs, and for agility classes, and the combination has paid off for her at Westminster's agility competitions in New York City this weekend. She may live

in Virginia now, but the Cornell grad practiced at Mattydale Animal Hospital and then at Stack Veterinary Hospital on Onondaga Hill for many years.

Just getting to this level is a feat, but to do it with TWO contenders, amazing.

This morning, Liz and her dog Chelsea competed in the Master's Agility Challenge (20" high obstacles class). She placed 4th in one class, 5th in another---speed by both the human and dog are important! ( Her older Lab Lexie is being retired next month at age 11, and did not qualify for the finals)

Agility competitions are now done, with the breed shows starting Monday morning. We'll keep you up to date.

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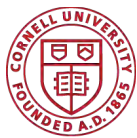
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## Historical hijinks from college prankster F.H. Fox

🐾 Monday, April 1, 2019 - 12:12pm



The Route 366 birthday counter of F.H. Fox, D.V.M. '45. When Fox passed away in 2015, students updated it to read: "F H Fox is 4EVER." All photos by the College of Veterinary Medicine.

In honor of April Fool's Day, the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine reflects on five pranks pulled by its own famous joker, Francis Henry Fox, D.V.M. '45.

Fox served as professor of large animal medicine at the college for over 40 years and was known for his innovative teaching techniques and clinical skills. He and his students had a lively relationship and often played pranks on each other without warning. Fox was notoriously irascible about his age, so for his birthday one year, veterinary students spray-painted a ventilator shaft at the college to read: "F H FOX IS 69." They then moved this birthday counter to its locally-famous location — a Varna, New York, railroad overpass on Route 366, which he would need to pass regularly on ambulatory visits in the area. They updated the counter every year until his passing in 2015. It now reads: "F H FOX IS 4EVER."

Below are several of Fox and his students' silliest pranks, taken from *The Fox Chronicles*, a book students compiled of his exploits for his birthday in 1993, which was also the year of his retirement. They write in the preface: "We have compiled these stories in the hope that they will bring a chuckle to Dr. Fox as he peruses them. We also hope that they will clearly show that the great man was outfoxed on more than one occasion in his illustrious career."

## 1. Fox abandons a student in the Danby countryside

Fox and a student were struggling to suture a laceration on the bridge of a spunky farm horse's nose. The horse reared up and flailed against the student with each clip. After critiquing the student's form, "Francis drove off and left me to find my own way home!"

## 2. A gullible trainee takes Fox's advice

While supervising an ambulatory visit to a local farm, Fox looked on while a student took the pulse of a heifer with dysentery. The student was doing so "gingerly, with one finger under the tail," they write. Never one to let such an opportunity pass, Fox suggested the student hold the tail tighter, leading to a messy misadventure for the student.



Fox in 1992.

## 3. Lunchtime larceny — and payback

His students describe Fox as wily and snarky, a man who enjoyed sending them off into barns on ambulatory visits to clean cows. While they were working, Fox would sit with his beagle Tico in the ambulatory vehicle and eat up the students' lunches. "This habit was curtailed," they write, "when the students made 'tuna fish sandwiches' with cat food."

## 4. Fox ascends three stories without lifting a foot

In 1956, Fox came across a student sweeping the floors of one of the old college buildings. After "moaning and groaning as usual about being overworked and under-appreciated," Fox bet the student he couldn't even carry him up the stairs. The student took his bet, carried him three floors — passing esteemed professor Myron Fincher, D.V.M. '20, M.S. '25, on the way — but never quite managed to collect the 10 dollars Fox promised.

## 5. Pranking the prankster

Fox was famous for fuming when students arrived late to his classes, and would embarrass anyone who wasn't in a seat at starting time. In 1978, a group of 10 students decided to harass him by coming in late at different times and in increasingly bizarre manners. The first one was simply five minutes late, another slammed the door behind him two minutes later, a third came in carrying a tray with cereal on it, and so on. One student crashed his bike into the radiator, then "took off my helmet and backpack, apologized for oversleeping and sat down." The tenth student waltzed in "wet from a shower and wearing his robe," proceeding to undress and change into his clothes there in the classroom. At that point, both the class and Fox were in stitches: "He threw up his arms and smiled."





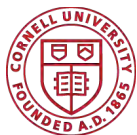


Fox lecturing on ophthalmology in 1955.

Learn more about Fox's life and history at the College of Veterinary Medicine in [‘Scopes](#), Cornell's [Ezra Magazine](#) and the [Ithaca Journal](#).

By Melanie Greaver Cordova





## Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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### Barbara Mix, D.V.M. '82, receives NYS Hometown Alumni Award

🐾 Thursday, February 21, 2019 - 2:41pm



Barbara Mix, D.V.M. '82, stops by a stable near Horseheads, New York, to check on an injured show horse. Photo by Jason Koski/Cornell Brand Communications.

Working as a veterinarian for several decades, Barbara Mix, D.V.M. '82, has treated species large and small, familiar and exotic, from alpacas to zebras.

In recognition of the cumulative and consistent impact of her veterinary and volunteer work in and around her hometown of Horseheads, New York, Mix was named the latest recipient of the Cornell New York State Hometown Alumni Award.

Mix currently works part time as a veterinarian at the Chemung County Veterinary Clinic and runs her own large-animal practice. She also volunteers with the Kramer Foundation, fostering and rehabilitating dogs for placement with law enforcement and the military.

The Cornell University New York State Hometown Alumni Award recognizes Cornell graduates who return to their home counties or regions to start or enhance a business or nonprofit, and who regularly volunteer and are making an impact in those communities.





Elizabeth Ingersoll, of the Vindonoh Horse Shelter, greets Barbara Mix, D.V.M. '82, at the ceremony. Photo by Simon Wheeler for Cornell Brand Communications.

Joel Malina, vice president for university relations, presented the award Feb. 20 at the Greater Southern Tier BOCES in Horseheads, recognizing Mix's leadership in the private and public sectors in Chemung County and her lifetime dedication to animal health and well-being, noting that Mix is "precisely the kind of person we seek to honor with our hometown alumni award, and Cornell is extremely proud to recognize her."

Malina noted that Mix's early enthusiasm for cattle and horses motivated her to pursue her education at Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine, spending as much time as she could in the large-animal clinic despite the fact that, at the time, few women were pursuing careers in large-animal care.

Mix began her career as a veterinarian in Canandaigua, New York, where she also worked as a 4-H leader, became a mom to daughter Mary Jo and mentored students in a BOCES animal science program. In 2002 she moved back to her home county, where she has continued her practice, does relief small-animal work, runs her own 40-acre farm and devotes free time to volunteering.

In addition to her work with the Kramer Foundation, Mix volunteers at the Greater Southern Tier BOCES, where she serves on the animal science advisory board. She provides students with internship opportunities, provides veterinary care for the resident animals, and has developed the animal science program curriculum and wrote the syllabus for the program on careers in veterinary medicine and animal care.

For many years Mix also was on call for the New York State Police, responding to accident scenes that involved overturned trucks and carriers, and animals that were often loose or injured.

At the ceremony, Guy Cutler, medical director at the Chemung Valley Veterinary Clinic, called Mix "one of the most compassionate and most dedicated people that I know," noting her special interest in rehabilitating animals recovering from injuries and surgery, therefore working closely both with the animals and their human owners and companions.

**"Barb's gifts, her passion for healing, and her calling to serve animals and the families that love them is what makes a difference in the community, and in my family in particular."**

- Laura Button

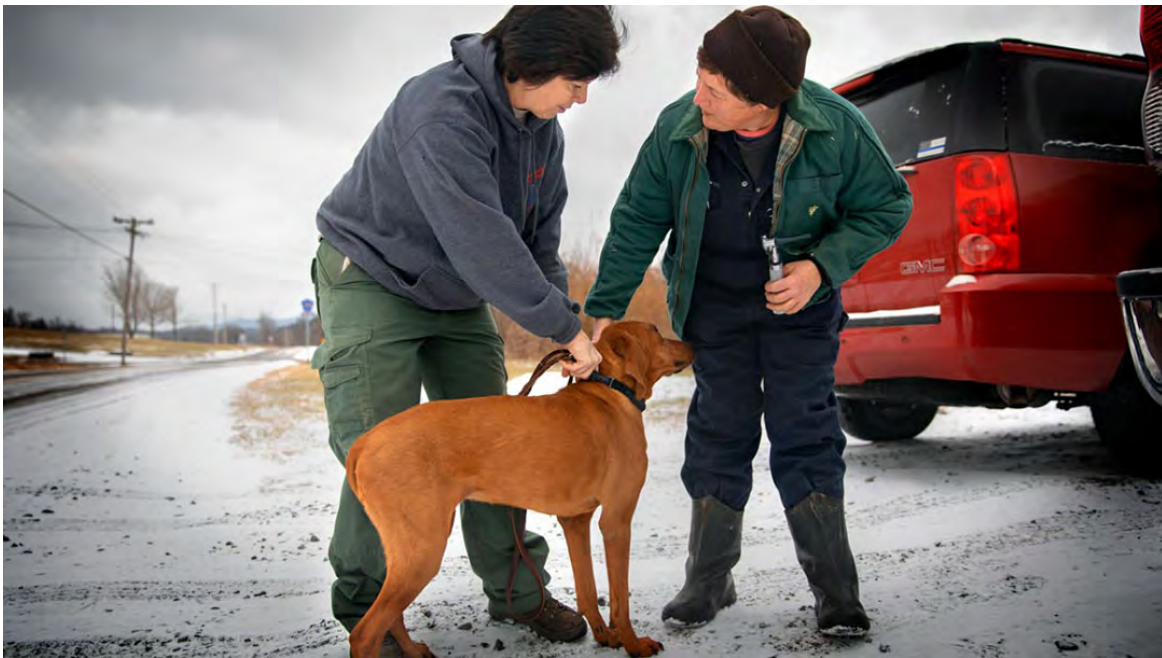
Laura Button, a friend, described the years of care Mix gave to a gentle, dependable retired racehorse named Jack, who was a close companion of Button's son, Alan, who has special needs.

Jack had torn the tendons in his front legs, and Mix and Button cared for him through rehabilitation and setbacks, including when Jack dislocated the bones in one leg. "At this point, she was treating all of us," Button said.

Mix understood that Jack was not a pet or a hobby or an investment – Jack "was a soulmate," Button said. Ultimately, Mix gave Jack five additional years with Alan and his family.

"Barb's gifts, her passion for healing, and her calling to serve animals and the families that love them is what makes a difference in the community, and in my family in particular," Laura Button said, thanking Mix, "my hometown vet."

Representatives from the offices of U.S. Rep. Tom Reed (R-23rd Dist.) and State Sen. Tom O'Mara (R-58th Dist.) also congratulated Mix and read proclamations from the elected officials.



Barbara Mix, D.V.M. '82, checks the ear of a search dog that is used for local search operations through the Kramer Foundation. Photo by Jason Koski/Cornell Brand Communications.

Accepting the award in front of friends, colleagues and family members, a humble Mix said, "Cornell University was a wonderful steppingstone for me and let me come back and be a team member on my hometown teams."

Mix said the award recognizes her many small roles in the community, from helping maintain the health of local dairy cattle, horses and companion animals like dogs and cats to educating high school students and helping people get their New York state veterinary technician licenses.

She noted that the work she does is hard, and the results are not always positive.

"But when we have things go right – when that little calf is born and winks and blinks and takes his first breath, when the dog that was thrown away gets to be a military or a search-and-rescue dog – I get the best part of all: I get to be the hometown cheerleader," Mix said. "And how good is that? It can't get any better than that."



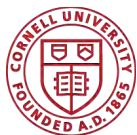
As part of the award, Cornell is donating \$500 in Mix's name to the Kramer Foundation and \$500 to the Vindonoh Horse Shelter, which aids abandoned horses.



Barbara Mix, D.V.M. '82, receives the Cornell New York State Hometown Alumni Award from Joel Malina, vice president for university relations. Photo by Simon Wheeler for Cornell Brand Communications.

By Joe Wilensky

*This story originally appeared in Ezra Magazine.*



## Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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### Cornell veterinary class of 2020 celebrates white coat ceremony

🐾 Monday, March 18, 2019 - 2:45pm



Third-year veterinary students swear the Veterinarian's Oath at the 2019 White Coat ceremony. Photo by Rachel Philipson.

Third-year veterinary students along with friends, family and mentors gathered on Saturday to celebrate the time honored tradition of donning their white lab coats, signifying their transition into clinical training. The 2019 Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine's White Coat Ceremony took place at Bailey Hall, officiated by the Austin O. Hooley Dean of Veterinary Medicine, Lorin D. Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. '94, and Assistant Dean for Students and Instruction, Katherine Edmondson, M.S. '85, Ph.D. '89. Mark Olcott, D.V.M. '95, president of the alumni association executive board, administered the Veterinarian's Oath, and Lisa Freeman '81, M.S. '86, D.V.M. '86, president of Northern Illinois University (NIU), served as the event's keynote speaker.

Dean Warnick opened the event by welcoming the attendees, and then took some time to recount some of his stand-out memories of his own experience on working as an ambulatory clinician. He recalled humorous moments such as the time when a student ate a cold can of Campbell's tomato soup for lunch — or when he visited an Amish farm and was helped by a four- and six-year old to get a recalcitrant cow into a stall. "Value the knowledge and observations of clients have of their own animals, even if only six years old," Warnick advised.

After his remarks, Assistant Dean Edmondson joined Warnick on the stage to guide third-year students through their coating ceremony. Students stepped on to the stage, and a mentor of their choosing helped to slide the white lab coat over the shoulders of each elated participant, signifying the moment that these budding veterinarians would officially begin their clinical training.

Alumni Association Executive Board President Olcott next led the students through the Veterinarian's Oath, which the third-years repeated after him with their right hands raised.

Next, Dr. Leni Kaplan '91, lecturer in the Community Practice Service, presented the John F. Cummings Memorial award to this year's winner, third-year student Laura St. Clair. Established in 1996 in memory of John Cummings '58, D.V.M. '62, Ph.D. '66, the James Law Professor of Anatomy who taught at Cornell for 29 years. The scholarship provides financial assistance to a student who has demonstrated clear and outstanding academic achievement in the study of veterinary medicine or comparative medicine.

To close the ceremony, alumna and NIU president Lisa Freeman spoke.

"Today, when you put on the symbolic white coat, you will look and feel different to others — and to yourselves. You, members of the Class of 2020, will vary in how you feel about this transition — whether you are completely comfortable with the choices you have made — whether you feel fully prepared for your clinical rotations. It's perfectly OK," said Freeman.

"In fact, I hope this won't be the last time the profession challenges you to feel this way. One of the greatest things about veterinary medicine is the breadth of career options and the associated opportunities for continued growth and reinvention. My own career pathway certainly speaks to this."

Freeman spoke about how, as NIU president, she uses the same skills that she learned as a fourth-year veterinary student. "I observe, listen and then use that experience to synthesize a plan," she said. "I act with incomplete information, understanding that adjusting downstream can yield better outcomes than doing nothing. I pursue pathways that are the best options in the context of limited resources. I clean up messes that I didn't make, and I work with a team of caring individuals who share my values."

By Lauren Cahoon Roberts

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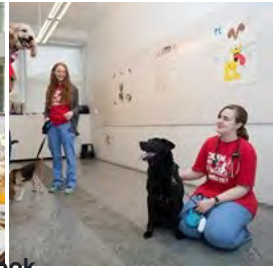
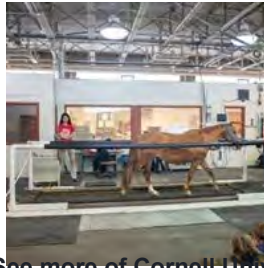
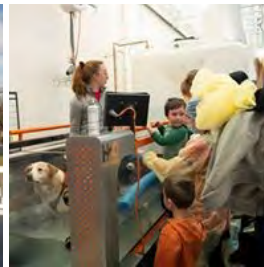
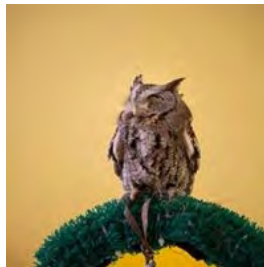
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## Open House 2019

20 Photos · Updated 17 days ago

Thank you to everyone who attended this year's Open House! We had a blast sharing our love of veterinary medicine with you.



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**Anne Hyland Woodard** Great photos! Loved this event! :-)

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**Dawn MacNaughton** Missed it again Emily!

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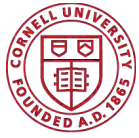
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## Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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# Cornell's first spay day sees high participation from community

🐾 Tuesday, February 26, 2019 - 1:37pm



"Spay Day was a huge success and is one of the many ways Cornell is a great resource for our community," said Evice Bolton, who organized the event with fellow third-year student Emily Gerardi. This photo by Rachel Philipson. All other photos by Pat Connelly.

The focus was feline during the College of Veterinary Medicine's first participation in World Spay Day. Volunteer veterinary students and supervising professionals performed 42 cat spay procedures and 36 neuters during the Feb. 23 event. The total of 78 surgeries exceeded their original goal of 50 cats served.

"Spay Day was a huge success and is one of the many ways Cornell is a great resource for our community," said Evice Bolton, who organized the event with fellow third-year student Emily Gerardi.

Spay and neuter services reduce animal overpopulation, particularly stray animals and in underserved communities. Clinics like this weekend's are in high demand across the state. "Within 12 hours of advertising the event through the Southside Healthy Pet Clinic, over 100 people inquired about getting their cats fixed," said Gerardi.

The Cornell students worked to provide spay and neuter services to the Ithaca community, as well as rabies vaccines and preventatives at no cost to owners during the event. They also treated a number of feral cats, which rescues and other members of the public trapped and released.

Created as Spay Day USA by the Doris Day Animal League in 1995, World Spay Day is now a campaign of the Humane Society of the United States. The society offers grants to those interested in participating as part of its mission to provide spay/neuter services for communities as well as learning opportunities for veterinary students. Bolton and Gerardi applied for and won the grant that made this year's event at Cornell possible.

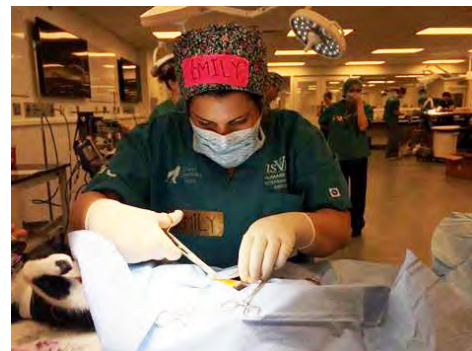


“Without support from the Humane Society, we wouldn’t have been able to make this event a reality and help so many cats and their families,” said Bolton. “Our hope is to make this a regular event in the future to help with cat overpopulation in our area.”

In addition to serving the community, the event also offered veterinary students a chance to gain more practice with surgical and anesthetic skills while under the supervision of Cornell doctors and technicians. Ten students performed the surgeries, 18 provided physical exams and anesthesia, and four recovered the cats following their procedures – each training in techniques specific to the high-quality, high-volume spay/neuter model regularly practiced by Cornell outreach teams.

“This is experience that veterinary students may not otherwise be exposed to,” said Dr. Paul Maza, Cornell veterinary faculty, director of FARVets and one of the supervising veterinarians. “An event like this encourages practical learning and bolsters student confidence.”

Other supervising professionals who donated their time included Drs. Stephanie Hon; Leni Kaplan '91; Jami Landry, D.V.M. '17; Erika Militana, D.V.M. '16; Sue Yanoff '77, D.V.M. '80; and licensed veterinary technicians Manny McGovern and Tesla Rich.



Bolton said that despite being the college's first time organizing an event for World Spay Day, everything came together smoothly. “The best part of this clinic was seeing everyone work together to make it happen,” she said. “We were only able to accomplish so much because of the amazing team we had. Everyone worked together well and had such great attitudes.”

By Melanie Greaver Cordova