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## CVM eNews - November 2018

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## November 2018



Temple Grandin speaking to the CVM community November 13.

### Message from the Dean

This has been another busy month for events at the college, including Parents Weekend, the Farrier Conference, Temple Grandin's visit and the One Health and Public Health Symposia, to name a few. Thanks to all of you for organizing and hosting these events, and especially for adapting so well to weather emergencies.

[This past week, the CVM Staff Council completed another successful round of elections, which saw 24 candidate nominations.](#) The Staff Council's dedicated work is an important part of our daily life at the college and it is gratifying to see so many of our community members excited about taking a leadership role. I look forward to working with Scott Butler, Omyia Damaj, Christine De Leonardis, Brittany Laslow, Kevin Lyon and Leslie Planck on their initiatives.

Thank you to all who attended our [State of the College address](#). I was pleased to be able to share our progress on the college's goals. Thank you also to Dr. Hector Aguilar-Careno, Dr. Karyn Havas, Dr. Cynthia Leifer and Ms. Danielle Pfaff, who all contributed to the address. If you missed the event, [you can watch it online here](#).

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merits over the holiday. Many of our community will spend at least part of the week providing clinical service, diagnostic testing, administrative support or research that cannot be interrupted. I appreciate all of you who are covering essential responsibilities this week. Best wishes to all of you and safe travels over the holidays.

Sincerely,

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

## Latest News



[State of the College addresses key research, financials and future goals](#)



[Cardiologists travel the world to improve treatment at home and abroad](#)



[CVM staff members win best group and department in Halloween costume contest](#)

## November Trivia

Look out for the answer to this trivia question in December's eNews!

Schurman Hall's namesake Jacob Schurman served in what role at Cornell?

**Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine**

Select

**Provost**

Select

**President**

Select

October's trivia question: Before moving to its current location in 1957, where were CVM's original facilities located?

Answer: The School of Industrial Relations. 64% of you answered correctly!

From 1895 to 1957, the veterinary college complex was initially located at the southeast corner of East Avenue and Tower Road, where Uris Hall and the School of Industrial and Labor Relations are currently situated.

## Community Notes

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## Many Voices, One College

A monthly diversity and inclusion dialogue series

### This month's topic: Bring a dish to pass

Why did you bring this dish?

What are you thankful for?

Visit: <http://bit.ly/manyvoicesdishtopass> to sign-up your dish

**Tuesday, November 27th**

Noon to 1pm in the green room (S2-223) adjacent to the Café  
Food will be provided



### [Spotlight on the CVM Staff Council Elections!](#)

### [We welcome Matt Braun as Assistant Dean of Alumni Affairs & Development](#)

**Wildlife Health Cornell** has launched a new crowdfunding campaign. The world is losing wildlife at an alarming rate: 60% of vertebrate animals on land and in sea since 1970. [If you care about wildlife or nature, consider making a change for good now.](#)

**Congratulations to Kristin Pennock**, Director of Student Financial Planning, who has recently completed the certification to become an Accredited Financial Counselor. This certification builds upon her knowledge and skills, and strengthens her ability to provide holistic financial counseling and education to students, and to help them assess and improve their financial decision making.

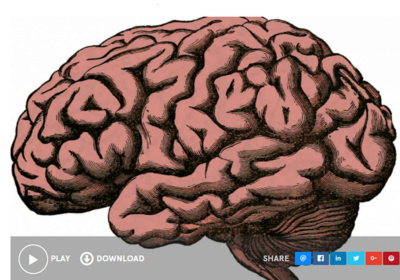
### [Hellos, goodbyes and HR update](#)

## CVM in the News



### [Popular Science: These synthetic canine cadavers help vets save real dogs](#)

Dr. Galina Hayes discusses how our veterinary students are gaining important surgical experience through the models.



### [Naked Scientists, BBC: Glioblastoma's effect on genes](#)

Dr. Charles Danko explains his latest work sequencing genes to understand which ones are switched on by the tumors.

[More News](#)

[More Events](#)

## Have Ideas to Share?

Let us know what you want to see in the Community Notes portion of eNews. Contribute events and articles which might be of interest to your colleagues and the CVM community at large.

Send in your submission by 12/14/18 to [cornellvet@cornell.edu](mailto:cornellvet@cornell.edu). Make sure to put eNews in the subject line so that your item can be considered for the next issue.

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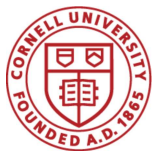
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## Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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# State of the College addresses key research, financials and future goals

🐾 Monday, November 12, 2018 - 11:13am



College community members and Dean Lorin D. Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. '94, took time at the podium to discuss key components of the Strategic Plan. Photos by Rachel Philipson.

This year's State of the College address gave a status update to the College of Veterinary Medicine community on its progress through the 2018-2022 Strategic Plan, including an overview of college financials, research, sustainability, diversity and other key priorities for the next year.

"The college has been leading veterinary medicine for over a century," said Lorin D. Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. '94, the Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine. "Among veterinary colleges, we are number one in independent investigator-initiated NIH RO1 grants, and number two in publications and citations per article."

College community members also took time at the podium to discuss key components of the Strategic Plan. Danielle Pfaff, director of finance and administration for the Cornell University Hospital for Animals, reported on the new Small Animal Community Practice as well as ezyVet, the hospital's new commercial electronic medical records system.

Karyn Havas, D.V.M. '05, section chief of infectious disease epidemiology and lecturer with the Masters of Public Health (MPH) and International Programs, gave a brief primer on the college's latest international efforts and the MPH program, which is now into its second year.

Panelists Dr. Hector Aguilar-Carreno, associate professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, and Cynthia Leifer, Ph.D. '00, associate professor of immunology, gave an overview of the college's efforts around diversity and inclusion, highlighting their recently-awarded NIH National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease Diversity Grant to boost underrepresented minority representation in research and academia.

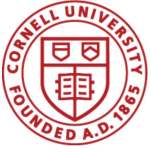


Karyn Havas, D.V.M. '05, section chief of infectious disease epidemiology and lecturer with the Masters of Public Health (MPH) and International Programs, gave a brief primer on the college's latest international efforts and the MPH program.

Warnick also discussed the college's educational initiatives around business and entrepreneurship training, as well as national student debt concerns. "We are taking this issue seriously, and looking closely at the practical ways to improve it and are taking steps to lower the debt-to-starting salary ratio to 1.4:1 by D.V.M. Class of 2028," said Warnick.

The dean concluded by thanking the community: "I am proud of our accomplishments and enthusiastic about where we are going. Each of you played an important role in our achievements, and I thank you for the many ways you have contributed to our success and in making this an interesting and rewarding place to work."

[Watch the full address online using your Cornell Blackboard account.](#)



## Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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# Medicine without borders: Cornell cardiologists travel the world to improve treatment at home and abroad

🐾 Thursday, November 8, 2018 - 9:14am



The ability to detect and understand arrhythmias, or abnormal heartbeats, is far from simple. Every disease is not the same, and some threaten animals' lives.

During years of working together to treat conditions from heart failure to congenital heart defects and arrhythmias, a team of cardiologists at Cornell has been perfecting the art of collaboration on campus. Now they're forming meaningful relationships around the globe — to save lives near and far.

Board-certified veterinary cardiologists Dr. N. Sydney Moïse, M.S. '85; associate professor Dr. Romain Pariaut; senior extension associate Bruce Kornreich, D.V.M. '92, Ph.D. '05 and adjunct professor Dr. Roberto Santilli, head of cardiology at the Clinica Veterinaria Malpensa in Italy, have brought their expertise to countries such as Russia, China, Portugal, India, Spain, Germany, France, Great Britain, Italy, Brazil, Taiwan and others in the form of workshops and conferences on arrhythmia for veterinarians at all stages of their careers.

The ability to detect and understand arrhythmias, or abnormal heartbeats, is far from simple. Every disease is not the same, explained Moïse, and some threaten animals' lives.

"Each of us has come from a different aspect of arrhythmia study, so we're each like a piece of a puzzle," she said. "We bring our complementary talents to training residents, teaching and writing manuscripts. After a recent trip to Russia, however, I realized that our way of working together is not just a local phenomenon. Veterinarians understand one another across borders. No matter what the political situation, we're all working toward a common goal and want to help each other."

**“ Visiting Cornell was like going back to basics while also having an eye toward future possibilities.**

- Dr. Maria Nazarova

## It takes a team

Moïse has expertise in long-term monitoring of arrhythmias. Santilli is a leader in the techniques of clinical electrophysiology and ablation, a procedure to scar or destroy tissue in the heart that's allowing incorrect electrical signals to cause an abnormal heart rhythm. Pariaut focuses on the diagnosis and treatment of arrhythmias. And Kornreich has a strong background in benchtop research and understands the complex electrophysiologic mechanisms at the cellular level.

Together, they developed a clinical cardiac electrophysiology lab at Cornell to treat arrhythmias medically and with a minimally invasive procedure known as ablation.

"It's a very rewarding technique," Pariaut said, "because it can completely correct a congenital cardiac defect in a young animal. Dogs born with an abnormal muscle bundle of the heart can experience heart rates as high as 300 beats per minute, causing weakness and poor body condition. After the ablation which in total may take several hours due to the complexity of the procedure, they can be back to normal, behaving like any healthy puppy the very next day."

On a typical day, Moïse, Santilli, Pariaut and Kornreich not only see patients and consult with one another on cases but also network with veterinarians all over the world through receiving and sending electrocardiograms.

Clinical medicine is driven by clinical practice, yet it also relies heavily on investigations that yield sound evidence-based results, Moïse explained. Working across borders helps veterinarians get better at treating patients because the money and resources available in veterinary medicine don't compare to those of human medicine. Therefore, veterinarians often rely on sharing information with colleagues who have conducted a series of cases.





The Cornell cardiology team. Photo provided by Maria Nazarova.

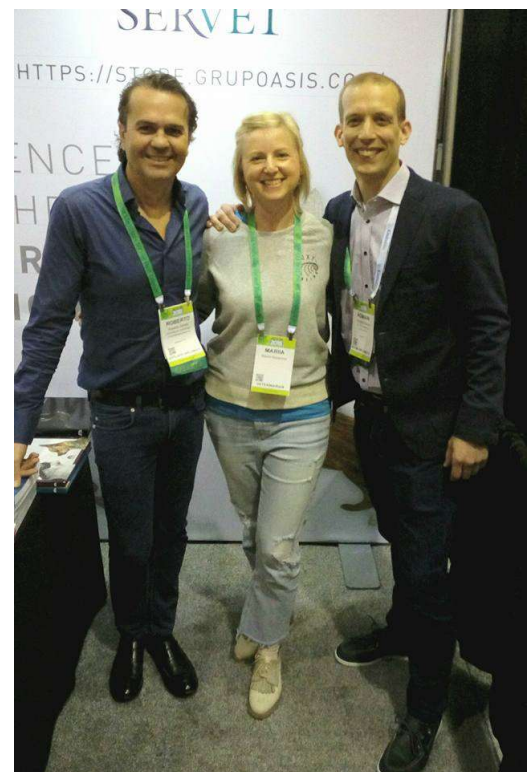
## New experiences, new perspectives

Thanks to the long-standing reputation of the cardiology team at Cornell and a recently published textbook coauthored by Santilli, Moïse and Pariaut entitled "[Electrocardiography of the Dog and Cat: Diagnosis of Arrhythmias](#)," the cardiologists are often invited to speak all over the world.

"Each place I've gone, there's always someone who is so driven that they travel to different veterinary schools to learn. Many come to Cornell and take what they learn back home," Moïse said. "We take note of these 'drivers' so that we can collaborate on studies. By pooling our research, we can treat so many more animals than we could by ourselves."

One such driver is Dr. Maria Nazarova. After hearing a lecture by Santilli at a the Italian Companion Animal Veterinary Association conference in Milan in 2014, Nazarova invited him to Russia to teach her and her colleagues. Two years later, she traveled to his cardiology department in Clinica Veterinaria Malpensa in Italy and then to Cornell to study with Moïse in 2018.

"That's how my new life began," said Nazarova. "I learned that we can't only use and trust our devices and forget about our clinician decisions. Now I always underline the value of the clinical exam to



From left, Drs. Roberto Santilli, Maria Nazarova and Romain Pariaut at a conference this year. Photo provided by Maria Nazarova.

my students, asking, ‘Did you notice anything unusual? Murmurs or pulse abnormality, rhythm, etcetera?’ Visiting Cornell was like going back to basics while also having an eye toward future possibilities.”

## From personal connections to global impact

While Nazarova visited Cornell, she was also suffering the adverse side effects of a rabies vaccine, and Moïse stepped in to take care of her. As a gesture of gratitude, Nazarova’s family invited Moïse and Santilli for dinner when they traveled to Russia for a conference.

“Getting to know veterinarians like Maria on a personal level gives me important perspectives on other cultures that I can’t get from watching the news, and I think it goes both ways,” Moïse said.

And the meaningful connection they shared has led to further collaboration. Impressed by Moïse’s expertise as well as her friendship, Nazarova interviewed her about both her approach to her work and her personal life. After learning that Moïse’s relationship with her childhood horse was what inspired her to pursue veterinary medicine, Nazarova offered Moïse a special parting gift — a drawing that she had made of a horse many years earlier, which happened to look just like the horse from Moïse’s childhood. Nazarova ultimately translated the interview into Russian and published it in Vet Pharma magazine this year.

Together with her sister Tanya, Nazarova is also translating “Electrocardiography of the Dog and Cat” into Russian. Initially published in Italian, the authors converted the book to English while expanding and updating the new version. The book gives both clinical and theoretical information to interpret simple complex electrocardiograms in dogs and cats, and is meant to be used by both veterinary students and general practitioners, as well as cardiology residents and specialists.

“ **I believe that sharing knowledge internationally is the future of veterinary medicine.**

- Dr. Roberto Santilli

In addition to Russian, the book will be translated into several languages, including Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, Korean, Chinese and French, Santilli explained. And he expects it to reach 7,000 to 8,000 veterinarians in its first year. “I’m thrilled that it will reach so many vets because it has completely changed how they can read electrocardiograms—to help them both make the right diagnoses and prescribe the right treatments.”

Because a dog’s love tends to be stronger than any pain it is feeling, a sick dog will push through discomfort, even if it’s life-threatening, explained Moïse. So veterinarians cannot rely on symptoms, which are expressed, but rather on clinical signs. They have to be able to detect abnormal heart rhythms, as well as determine the type of arrhythmia and how serious it is.

“If you stay in your center doing what you think is the best, you might do very well,” Santilli said, “but people around the world can help you grow. I believe that sharing knowledge internationally is the future of veterinary medicine.”



"Each place I've gone, there's always someone who is so driven that they travel to different veterinary schools to learn. Many come to Cornell and take what they learn back home," said Dr. N. Sydney Moise.

By Jennifer Savran Kelly

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Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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## CORNELL CHRONICLE



Simon Wheeler/Cornell Brand Communications  
Best Group and Department: CVM Vipers, from the CVM accounting service center, at Halloween Happenings Oct. 31.

## Creativity reigns at 2018 Halloween Happenings

November 1, 2018

So many costumes showcased Cornell staff creativity at the 2018 Halloween Happenings that judges had to make a new category to accommodate them: judges' choice honorable mention.

The group receiving that honor at the Oct. 31 gathering at Cornell Cinema: the "Minions," from ILR Budget and Finance.

Topping the best group or department category was "CVM Vipers," a team from the College of Veterinary Medicine's accounting service center. Second place in the group category went to "Alice in Wonderland," from Cornell Health.

The scariest was Jennifer Evangelista, from the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs, as the "Corpse Bride," followed by "The Don," from Building Care, who was so scary that organizers are still trying to find out who he is.

Judged the funniest was "Blast from the Past," with staff from Martha Van Rensselaer Hall; in second place were "The Spice Girls," featuring DJ AllSpice, with staff from Occupational Medicine, Cornell Health.



Simon Wheeler/Cornell Brand Communications

Second most original were "Penguins: Birds of a Feather," from Statler Hall. First in most original were Building Care's "Pac Man and Ghosts," with an outsized Pac Man who barely fit through the stairway to the stage.

Other costumes included the "Colonel and His Chicken"; "Ant Man and the Wasp"; "Hobo the Clown"; "Anonymous" from "V for Vendetta"; "Belle" from "Beauty and the Beast"; "Lifarian"; "Marvin the Martian"; and "SPCA Adoptable Animals."

Joel Malina, vice president for university relations, emceed the event. Judges were Mary Opperman, vice president and chief human resources officer; Rachel Giordano, human resource generalist at Seneca Place; and Michael Esposito, academic policy consultant in academic human resources.

Opperman closed the event by paying tribute to Judy Hart '73, a long-time Cornell employee and retiree who died in 2015. Hart advocated for the creation of Halloween Happenings, begun in 1997 by the Cornell Recreation Community.

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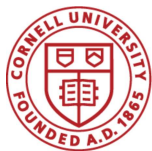
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(/stories/2018/10/educational-fun-  
insects-insectapalooza-oct-20)



**Pumpkin prank  
perpetrator puzzle  
persists 20 years later**

(/stories/2017/10/pumpkin-prank-  
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### Spotlight on CVM Staff Council Elections

The CVM Staff Council is excited to highlight the *CVM Staff Council Elections* in the November 2018 edition of CVM eNews. The 2019 election process has officially concluded, and we are eager to highlight the incoming 2019 CVM Staff Council Representatives along with the outgoing 2017 CVM Staff Council Representatives.

The CVM Staff Council was established in 2012 with the main objective of providing a mechanism for non-academic staff to effectively provide input to College Leadership on matters relating to the work environment. The Staff Council works closely with Human Resources and the Dean's Office to facilitate communication between staff members and College Leadership; provide a forum for staff participation in relevant and important decisions; and assist in building a cohesive community, where the contributions of staff are recognized. CVM Staff Council representatives have a direct impact on the community and its 600+ members; they serve as a voice for their colleagues and help make change happen. Each elected candidate serves a two-year term beginning on January 1. All non-academic staff are encouraged to participate by way of attending monthly meetings, proposing topics for discussion, volunteering at CVM Staff Council events and interacting with staff from around the college. Please email the CVM Staff Council for information on how to become more involved.



CVM Staff Council voting booth located outside of the CVM cafe.

The CVM Staff Council collected over 30 nominations for 2019 representation between October 11 and October 19 with voting occurring between October 29 and November 9. There were 24 staff members that accepted nominations this season, and over 300 votes were cast during the election process! A big thank you to all members of the community that nominated a colleague and/or participated in the voting process; this year's process was a huge success because of you!

The CVM Staff Council would like to thank Becky Callan, Marie de Roos, Jacque Nelson-Harrington, Diane Kilts and Katie Stevens for serving on the Council from 2017-2019. Each member was asked to share their experiences serving on the Council over the past two years.

## Becky Callan (current Chair)



Becky Callan

"Serving on the CVM Staff Council over the past two years has been such a wonderful experience. I chose to run for a seat because I believe in the work the CVM Staff Council does; providing educational opportunities, supporting recognition events, being a voice for the staff, and building a sense of community. I am very thankful to have had the opportunity to meet and work with some of the most amazing members of our College Community through participation with the CVM Staff Council. I am also incredibly thankful to College Leadership, including Dave Howe, Mary Beth Jordan, and Dean Warnick, for seeing the importance of the CVM Staff Council and for investing in its success. I would encourage anyone interested in becoming involved with the CVM Staff Council to reach out to both current and past members to ask questions and/or share suggestions. Just get involved!"

## Marie de Roos (current Treasurer)



Marie de Roos

"The role of Staff Council is to be a bridge between staff and administration. One way in which it fulfills that role is in building community in order to make the Vet College a more welcoming, hence better, place to work. That was an important focus for me, and one of the reasons I wanted to join Staff Council. Participating in planning social events expanded my world beyond my role in the Accounting Service Center. I made friends with people whose paths might not otherwise have crossed mine. The beginnings of new community for me and for them. Becoming an Ambassador through the Staff Council Ambassador Program gave me a direct way to make a positive impact on a new employee's experience at College of Veterinary Medicine. This is one way of being connected. How can you connect? Staff Council can help!"

## Jacque Nelson-Harrington



Jacque Nelson-Harrington

"During my 2 year term on Staff Council, I feel many goals were achieved. Our outreach has greatly expanded and many more employees are aware of Staff Council's presence. I also thoroughly enjoyed working on the Wellness Committee; we had fantastic turnouts for the annual *Spring in Your Step* challenges. The implementation of the anonymous suggestion box on our webpage was a very meaningful achievement that I hope will continue to increase in usage. I also very much enjoyed working with the other members of Council. The overall enthusiasm and willingness to participate was very motivating. Staff Council can do more and I hope the CVM staff community will reach out and tell the Council what they need or would like to see."



## Diane Kilts (current Vice-Chair)



Diane Kilts

"I joined the CVM Staff Council to be part of the larger environment at the Vet College and to help promote a community spirit and support staff engagement. I am most proud that we created the annual Dionne Henderson award to recognize staff who exemplify the engaging values that Dionne embraced. I am also happy to have been involved in creating the Staff Council magnet. It was a collaborative effort that symbolizes who we are as a group. Coordinating the "Spring In Your Step" wellness initiative and choosing the various campus destinations was really fun to do, especially in warm spring weather! The outreach of the Staff Council and its ability to promote social, wellness and educational opportunities for Vet College staff and faculty is truly unique! It provides a wonderful opportunity to work together with other members of the college community."

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## Katie Stevens



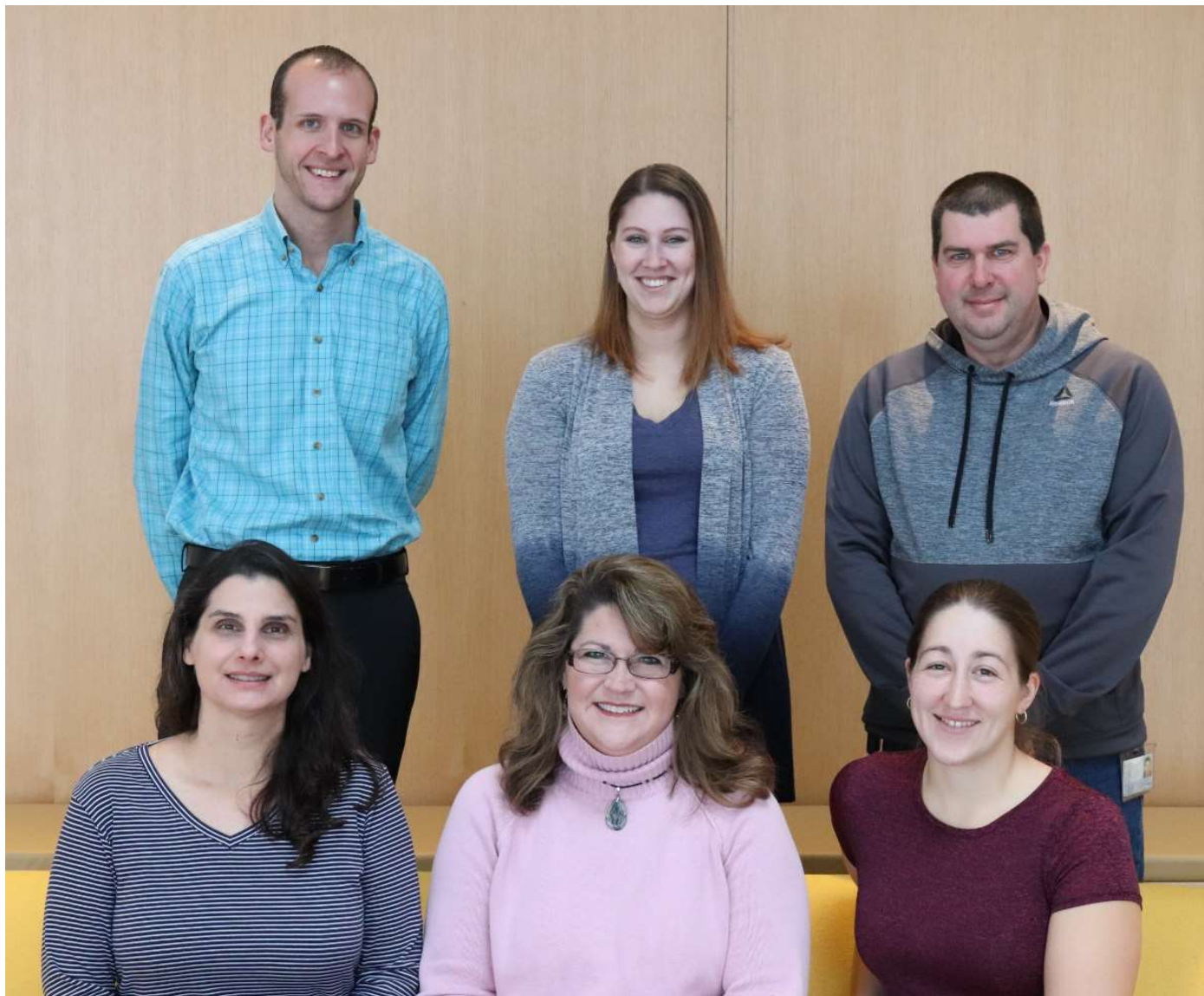
Katie Stevens

Katie Stevens chose to run for Staff Council so that she could be more of a voice for her fellow staff members in the Cornell University Hospital for Animals. As a team lead in large animal surgery, Katie has a better understanding of what the staff both want and need. Katie was most interested in focusing on staff pet care costs, improving work areas, and lumbar support education. Additionally, she was very interested in participating in the fun events hosted by the CVM Staff Council!

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## New Members

The CVM Staff Council would like to welcome Scott Butler, Omyia Damaj, Christine De Leonardis, Brittany Laslow, Kevin Lyon, and Leslie Planck, whose appointments begin on January 1, 2019 and end December 31, 2020, to the team.



From back to front, left to right: Kevin Lyon, Brittany Laslow, Scott Butler, Christine De Leonardis, Leslie Planck, Omyia Damaj.

**Scott Butler** has been with the College for 24 years. He currently works as a Research Support Specialist in the Biomedical Sciences Department and was one of the founding members of the CVM Staff Council. Scott would like to focus on increasing the exposure and availability of the Council, continuing to build avenues for staff recognition, and continuing to support new and/or transitioning staff.

**Omyia Damaj** has been an employee of the College for the past two years and currently works as a Medical Technologist in the Animal Health Diagnostic Center. Omyia would like to focus on wellness, educational programs, and increasing awareness among staff regarding the existence and mission of the CVM Staff Council.

**Christine De Leonardis** has been with the College for 25 years and currently works as a Medical Technologist in the Animal Health Diagnostic Center. Christine would like to focus on wellness and sustainability.

**Brittany Laslow** has been with the College for the past two years and currently works as a Laboratory Manager in Molecular Medicine. Brittany would like to focus on making sure staff suggestions and concerns are heard, finding new and exciting ways to get staff involved, and focusing on staff appreciation.

**Kevin Lyon** has been with the College for the past five years and currently works as the Department Manager in Molecular Medicine. Kevin would like to focus on providing more opportunities for CVM departments and support units to share best practices, materials, and procedures, promoting onsite professional development opportunities tailored to fit the needs of the CVM Community, and creating events that would alleviate work stressors and allow staff to network with other departments.

**Leslie Planck** has been with the College for the past 17 years and currently works as an Accounts Representative in the Accounting Service Center. Leslie is interested in focusing on how the newly renovated CVM space is being used, reducing the CVM carbon

footprint, and ensuring staff, students, and faculty have support in terms of wellbeing.

The CVM Staff Council would like to encourage all staff members to get involved. Have suggestions? [Email the Staff Council](#) or submit your suggestion anonymously on the [CVM Staff Council webpage](#). Better yet, reach out to one of the Council members and have a conversation!

Do you have ideas or suggestions for an upcoming *Spotlight*? Email us at [cvmstaffcouncil@cornell.edu](mailto:cvmstaffcouncil@cornell.edu)!

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# Matt Braun begins term as CVM assistant dean for alumni affairs and development

🐾 Monday, November 12, 2018 - 9:46am



Matt Braun is CVM's new assistant dean of alumni affairs and development

Matt Braun starts his role as new assistant dean for alumni affairs and development (AA&D) at the college on November 12.

As assistant dean for AA&D, Braun will serve as the chief development officer for all development programs, and direct the college's overall fundraising and alumni outreach strategies, set campaign and annual fundraising goals for the college, and promote the college to internal and external constituencies. Braun will work closely with the college's advisory council, alumni executive board, as well as faculty and staff in academic departments, hospitals and centers.

In previous roles, he served as director of development at the Johnson Museum of Art at Cornell, was executive director at both the Fleisher Art Memorial in Philadelphia and The History Center in Tompkins County. Braun holds a BFA from Washington University in St. Louis. He also completed a post-graduate residency at the Slade School of Art at the University College of London as a Fulbright Scholar.

Braun succeeds Alison Smith, who served as interim assistant dean after Kevin Mahaney stepped down in early 2018. "We are very grateful for Alison's efforts during this transition period," says Lorin D. Warnick, D.V.M., Ph.D. '94, Austin O. Hooey Dean of Veterinary Medicine. "Alison's professionalism and experienced perspectives have been of tremendous value." Smith will continue in her role as a major gift officer for the college, strengthening relationships with many of the College's most generous alumni and friends.

In his new role, Braun will guide the AA&D efforts in sync with the College's strategic priorities, and in support of the University's vision to position Cornell as the model of a premier university for our times.

"I'm thrilled to be joining such a talented AA&D team. Their success in helping to advance the College over many years provides a terrific foundation for our future work together."

"I'm pleased to have Matt join us at the college," says Warnick. "We are excited to begin working with him to reach the college's strategic goals. The college is fortunate to have exceptional Alumni and Affairs Development staff and Matt will be a terrific addition and leader for the team."



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*Leopards, tigers, hawks, eagles, deer, moose, bluebirds, bees, sharks, salamanders, rhinos, elephants, cattle, primates, people, and planet. What do they have in common? Wildlife Health Cornell. Because we need nature, and nature needs us.*

**Your support can make change for good. Join the team of Wildlife Health Cornell.**

The magnificence of nature and wildlife depends on wild animal health, domestic animal, and human health today and well into the future. We are currently living through Earth's sixth mass extinction. Together, will we thrive or merely survive? With your help, the possibilities are as endless as our reach.







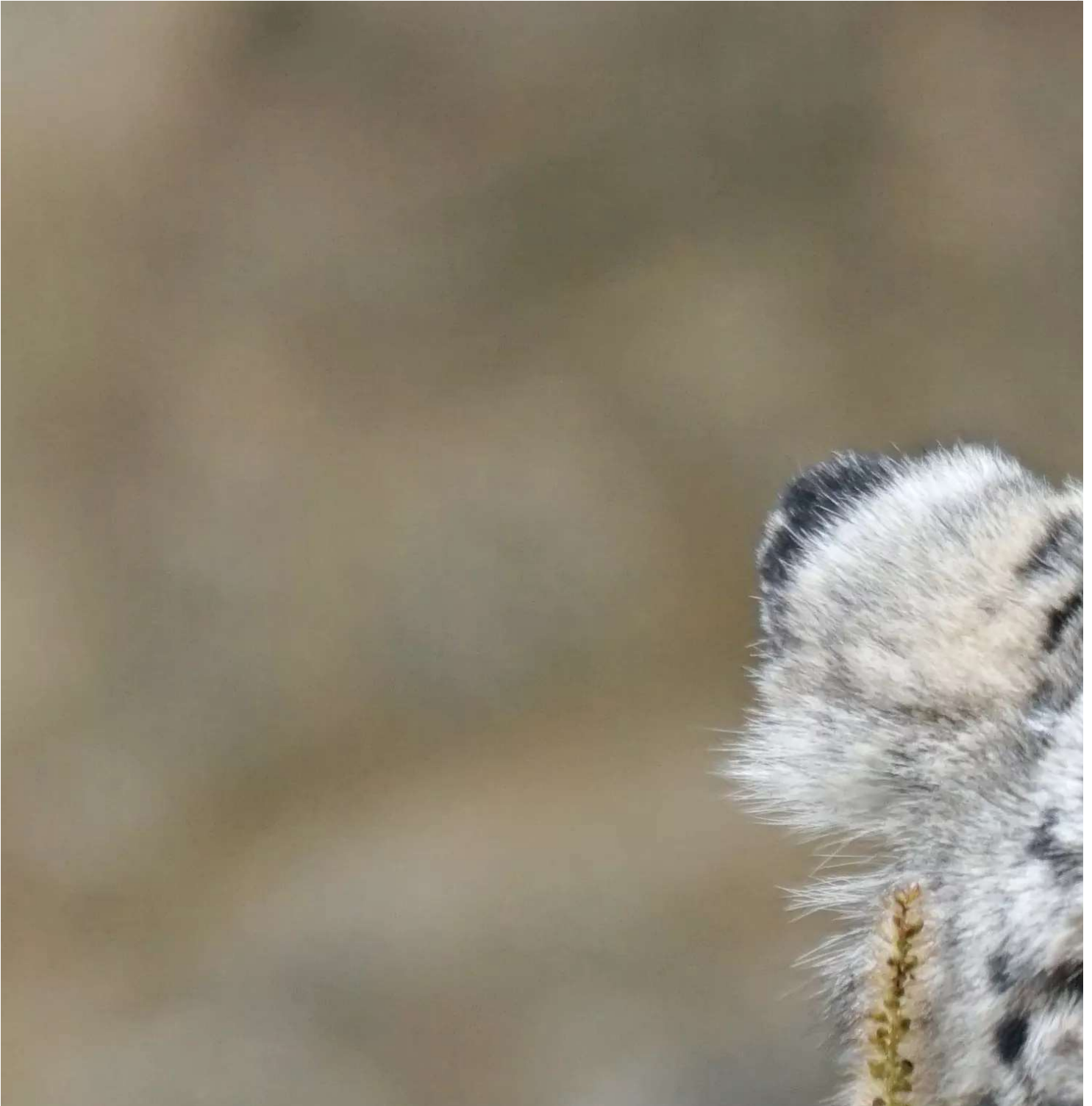


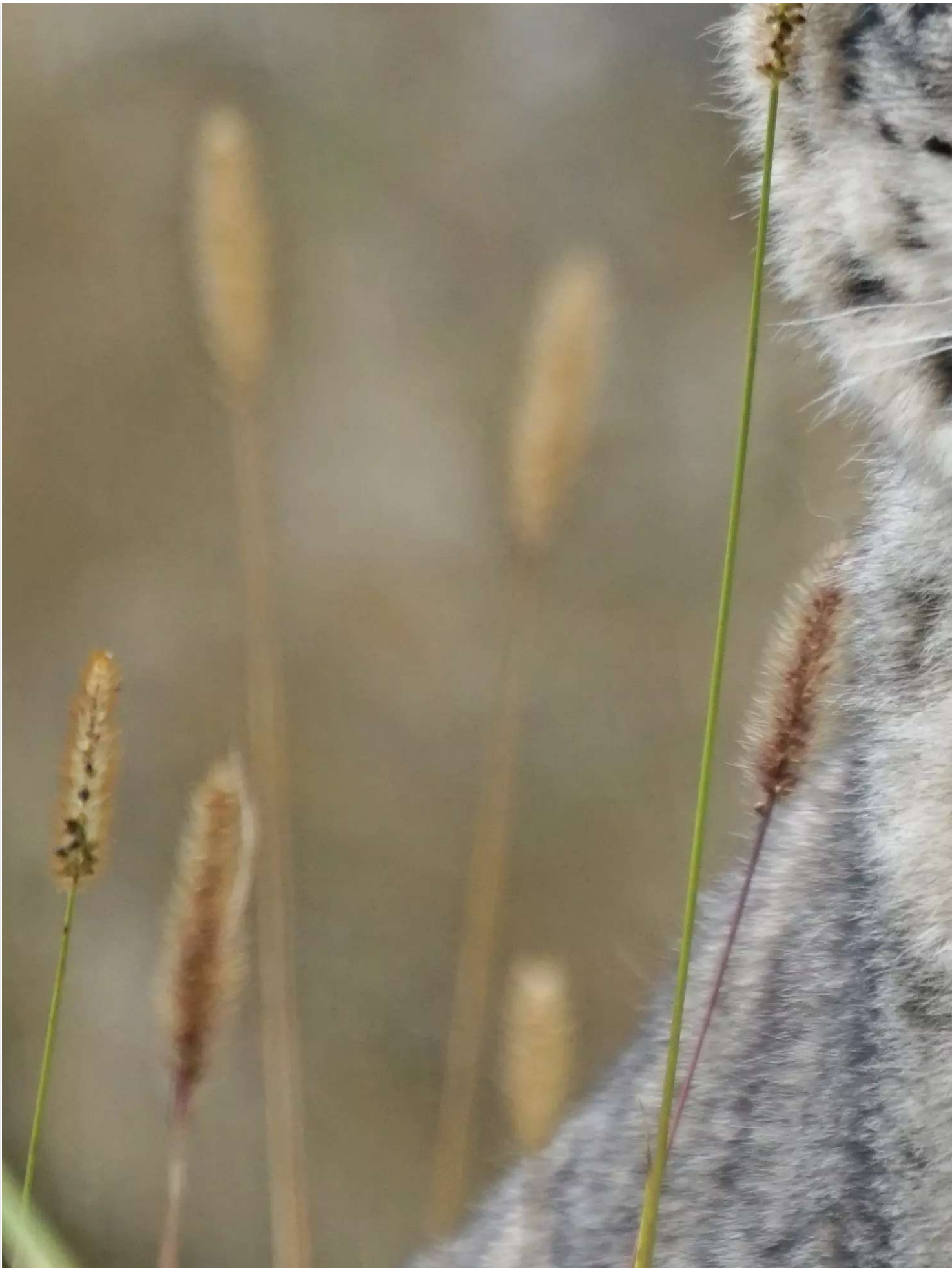
That's because Cornell is home to an unprecedented team approach to the health challenges facing animals and people around the world. Wildlife Health Cornell unites research, education, science-based advocacy, fieldwork, outreach, and rehabilitative and preventive care efforts helping to save animals of all species as well as people, and the one and only planet we share. Top wildlife and ecosystem health experts work together with students, local communities, governments, and non-governmental organizations that affect policy and action.

From the Expanding Horizons international student fieldwork program to Cornell's new Master of Public Health, the Swanson Wildlife Health Center, the New York State Wildlife Health Lab and more, Cornell is reaching across the globe to help ensure a healthy future for wildlife, domestic animals, people, and the planet.

**Your gift to Wildlife Health Cornell can support any species or any student through:**

Life-changing field experiences in international settings for students working directly with local communities from Indonesia to Tajikistan and many points in between.







Direct care to injured or ill native wildlife - like those in your backyard - with the goal of returning healthy animals to their natural environment.





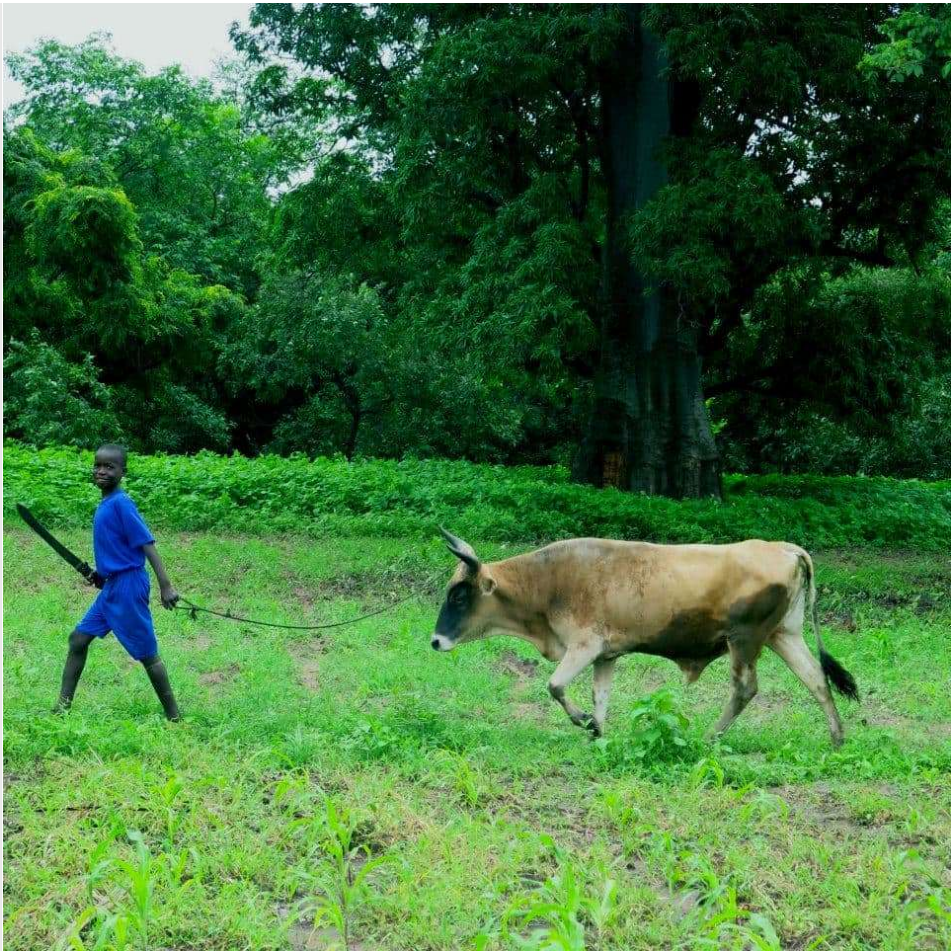


Prevention of disease outbreaks affecting animals and people, through testing, surveillance, and expert consultation.



Making an impact on policy to protect and mutually benefit the health of animals, people, places, and planet - today and tomorrow.





**YOU can change lives.**  
Take a journey with us and help make change for good.  
Along the way, you'll meet some of your new teammates....



A team helps airlift a rhino to a safe location.

For additional information on how to support a specific area with your gift, email [Lps8@cornell.edu](mailto:Lps8@cornell.edu) .

Levels  
Choose a giving level

**\$25**

**On the ground**

No animal is too small to be helped. No gift is too small to help, and everyone can get in on the ground level. Gifts at this level can support supplies and food for wildlife in need of a little rehab and a lot of TLC, just like that provided by the Swanson Wildlife Health Center.

Contribute \$25

**\$50**

**In the air**

Buy supplies like scales, cages, or pop-up tents for the Swanson Wildlife Health Center. The Center helps injured wildlife, from hawks to chipmunks, snakes to woodchucks, rabbits to raccoons, and many more. So many that the Center exceeded last year's record high caseload in the first 8 months of this year.

Contribute \$50

\$100

Rapid response on the road

The Wildlife Health Lab is New York's go-to expert team in an emergency when a new situation arises. Get them on the road to investigate an outbreak, prevent the spread of disease, and support their DEC partners as quickly as possible.

Contribute \$100

\$250

Rehab

Food, equipment, and supplies are needed to rehab domestic wildlife so they can be returned to their environments.

Contribute \$250

\$500

Conservation & communities

Students accompanying faculty on cross-cultural immersion experiences work directly with local communities to implement creative solutions to challenges affecting conservation for future generations.

Contribute \$500

\$1,000

Spread the word

A gift at this level will fund a student who will develop resources allowing Wildlife Health Cornell to share the impact of faculty, resident, intern, and student work. Expanding awareness is crucial to long-term support of our programs.

Contribute \$1,000

\$5,000

In the field

Send a student to Indonesia to work with local communities, to conserve wildlife and enrich their own lives. Or provide field equipment used to help animals in the wild closer to home, like moose - native New Yorkers.

Contribute \$5,000

\$10,000

Fully immersed

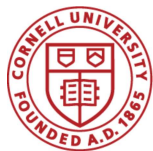
Fully fund a summer practicum for an MPH student or an international wildlife fieldwork experience for a DVM student in Africa or Asia. Send a faculty member to work with Amur tigers or snow leopards. Or bring an international partner to the US to work with Cornell experts on vital conservation medicine projects.

Contribute \$10,000

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## Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

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# November 2018: Hellos, Goodbyes and HR Update

Help us welcome new employees who joined the CVM community in October and bid a fond farewell to those who have retired.

## New Hires

- **Damon George Frederick Brown**, Animal Attendant S04, Cornell University Hospital for Animals
- **Kenichiro Yagi**, Veterinary Education Simulation Laboratory Manager, Department of Clinical Sciences

## Retirements

- **Kevin Draiss**, Animal Technician II, Baker Institute for Animal Health

## Human Resources Update

### CVM BeneFair, December 5, 2018 in Takoda's Run Atrium

Option transfer season is here, and that means it's the best time of year to review your benefits elections and make sure everything is up to date. Remember, this is the only time during the year employees can enroll in or make changes to their benefits (unless you experience a qualifying event).

**Check your benefits:** [Log in to Workday](#) and click on the Benefits icon to review your benefits elections.

**Go to BeneFair:** If you have questions about any of your benefits, make sure to attend **BeneFair**, Wednesday, December 5, 2018 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in Takoda's Run Atrium. You will have an opportunity to speak directly with Cornell Benefit Services staff and partner vendors. You can also find information about health care, retirement and insurance benefits, as well as the wide variety of additional benefits, such as continuing education, career training, wellness, parenting and caregiver support and more. Questions? Contact Benefit Services at (607) 255-3936.

### Protect Your Personal Data: Opt Out of Receiving Your W-2 in the Mail

Did you know that you can elect not to have your W-2 mailed to you? It's true! You can opt to receive your year-end W-2 form electronically. Electronic access eliminates the risk of a stolen or lost W-2, reduces the risk of identity theft, saves postage, reduces environmental impact and allows you early and instant access.

To suppress the mailing of your W-2 and opt in for an electronic copy of your W-2:

- Click the Pay icon.
- Under the External Links, click How do I opt in for an electronic W-2? A PDF document will download that contains instructions to follow.
- Take Action Now: *The deadline to opt in to receive an electronic copy of your 2018 W-2 is January 4, 2019.*

Reminders:

- If you have not opted for an electronic copy of your 2018 W-2, please review and update your mailing address no later than January 4, 2019.

### Current Nonacademic Open Positions

The list below is dynamic and updated regularly. For additional information, please [visit the Cornell Careers Page](#).

- Genomics Project Coordinator
- Grant & Contract Assistant, College of Veterinary Medicine
- Technician III - Stokol Lab
- Toxicology Technician
- Bioinformatics Analyst
- Ruffian Emergency Care Clinician - Located in Long Island
- Client Service Representative - 1 year term position
- Equine Licensed Vet Tech - Elmont, NY
- CUHA- Customer Service Representative (Part-time, Weekend position)
- Client Service Representative - Cornell Ruffian Equine Specialists-Located in Long Island
- Licensed Veterinary Technician - Companion Animal Nursing Care

## Academic Open Positions

For a listing of open academic positions, please visit: <https://apps.hr.cornell.edu/recruiting/facultycareer.cfm>.

Should you have any questions related to the topics above, please contact the CVM HR office (607-253-4111 or [tdp38@cornell.edu](mailto:tdp38@cornell.edu)).

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# These synthetic canine cadavers help vets save real dogs


They're even better than the real thing in some ways.

By ROB VERGER NOVEMBER 7, 2018

Like pilots, surgeons need to practice before they can fly solo. For veterinarians in the making and in their last year of school, that means learning by watching an actual procedure on a real animal, and perhaps actually getting to perform a part of it on their own. Another option is hands-on work with a dog cadaver, which comes with its own drawbacks, including making sure they're defrosted at the right time.

Article Continues Below:



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But veterinary students at Cornell University have been practicing procedures on synthetic canine cadavers—a way for them to gain important surgical experience without operating on a real animal.

The artificial dogs come from a company called SynDaver Labs, which creates what their CEO and founder, Christopher Sakezles, calls “tissue analogues.” They’re known for a synthetic human—it, and Sakezles, made an appearance on *Shark Tank* in 2015—and their first-gen canine cadaver came out in 2017. Besides Cornell, institutions like the University of Florida and Texas A&M University also have a number of synthetic canines from SynDaver Labs. The company creates the tissue, Sakezles says, out of water, salt, and fibers that are either plant-based or synthetic, like polyester.

Cornell has had three artificial canines for about six months, although only one of them is the full body: the other two only simulate the animal’s abdomen.

## So why the synthetic cadavers?

The Cornell University Hospital for Animals tends to see challenging cases—they receive animals in high-risk situations from other facilities. “Our caseload tends to be things that general practitioners are not comfortable cutting,” says Galina Hayes, an assistant professor in the section of small animal surgery at the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine. In other words, it’s not an ideal place for veterinary students to get hands-on experience learning basic skills.



"The cases are not only complex, but the patients are often unstable," she says. Unstable cases means that the animal patients shouldn't be kept under anesthesia any longer than absolutely necessary. "Trying to keep a short anesthetic time, combined with a novice surgeon, are two mutually incompatible goals."

Thus the need for the synthetic cadavers, which are actually a better option than a genuine canine cadaver. "Pretty much as soon as a dog, or a human for that matter, dies, the intestine starts to degrade and you stop being able to suture it with any kind of realism," she says, noting that the intestines become tissue-paper-like. Those aren't the only problems real cadavers pose. "They have to be defrosted three days before you want to use them."

The synthetic cadavers also mean that another brutal and upsetting option doesn't need consideration. That's what's known as a kill procedure, in which a vet student practices more than one procedure on a live, but anesthetized dog, which is later euthanized. "The general trend, is, thank goodness, moving away from that," Hayes says. (She says that option was a non-starter for them.)

## Liquid storage

Logistically, when the synthetic canines aren't in use, they must be stored in liquid so they don't dry out—Sakezles says they would be like a cooked spaghetti noodle left out on the counter; thus, they are immersed in water that's treated similarly to pool water to prevent stink-causing fungus or bacteria from prospering.

"So our basement looks like something out of Frankenstein's monster, with these dogs drifting around in their tanks, and all the organ parts drifting around in their tanks," Hayes says, chuckling.

SynDaver Labs is currently working on a synthetic equine (not a complete horse, but horse parts, like a head-and-neck simulator) and a cat, which is intended for dissection in schools, not for veterinarians practicing their skills.

At Cornell, Hayes says that the SynDaviers don't perfectly mimic a real, live canine, but nonetheless offer a more realistic operating experience than a flesh-and-blood cadaver would. "We feel much happier about the level of training that we're able to provide these kids with," Hayes adds. And that hands-on training is key. "Most of this is about acknowledging that surgeons are made, not born."

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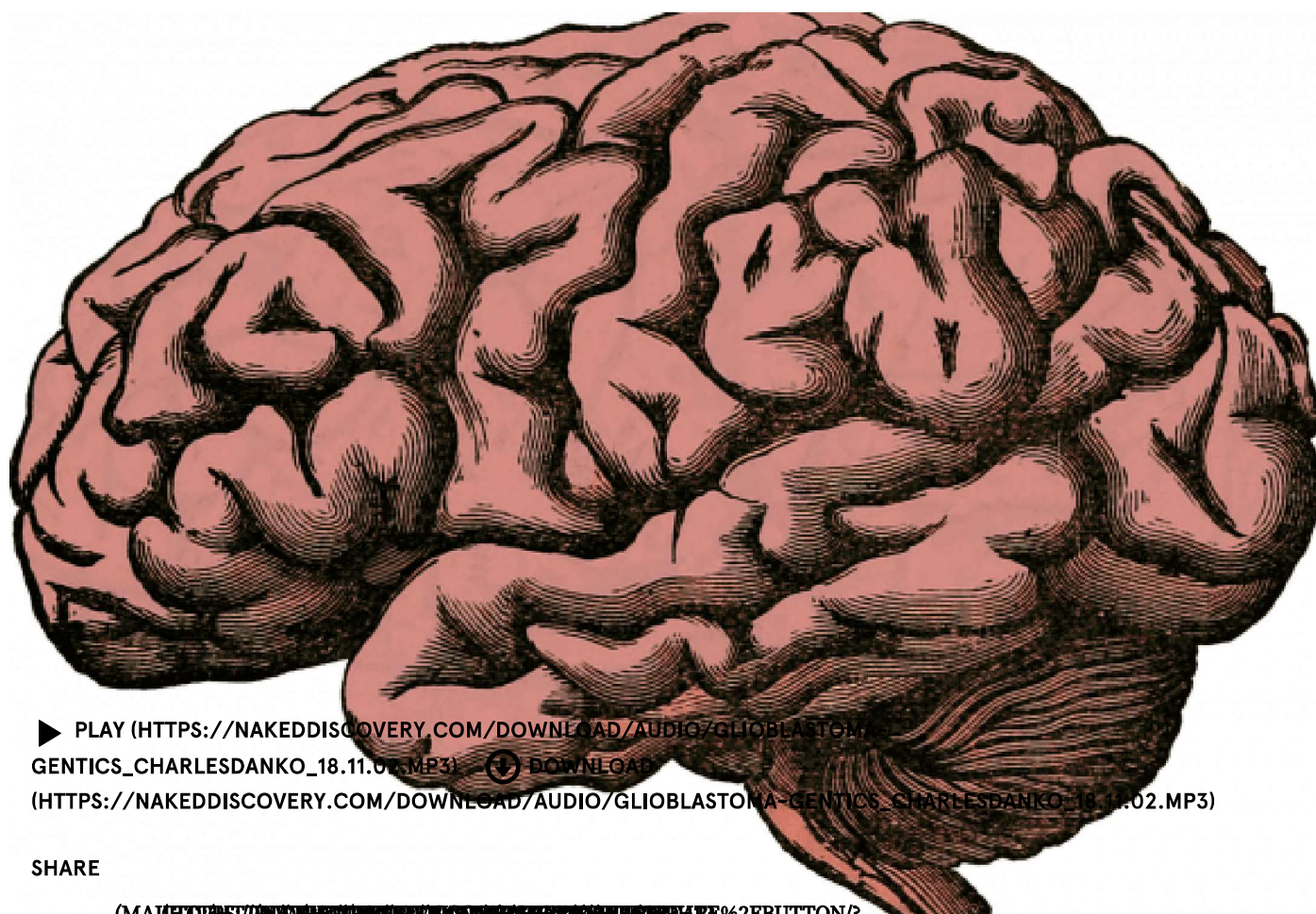
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Podcasts (/podcasts) / In short (/podcasts/short) / Glioblastoma's Effect on Genes

02 November 2018 / Presented by **ADAM MURPHY** (/USERS/ADAM-MURPHY).



Glioblastoma is an aggressive and often deadly cancer of the brain. Understanding it is vital to improving patient outcomes. In a new study published in *Nature Genetics*, a group in Cornell University has been sequencing genes to understand which ones are switched on by the tumours. To learn more, Adam Murphy spoke to Charles Danko, of the Baker Institute for Animal Health and the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine...

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