

Student Auxiliary Intercom

Fall 2006

It may not be
your
profession,
but it **is**
a part of
your life.



STUDENT AUXILIARY TO THE AVMA

A Bulletin to Educate, Entertain and Inform Auxiliaries to the AVMA Student Chapters



Student Loan Fund

One of the major projects of the Auxiliary to the AVMA is the Student Loan Fund (SLF). The SLF has been a long standing service offered by the Auxiliary. It was established at the conclusion of World War I in order to financially assist veterinarians who were injured in the war or to assist families of veterinarians killed in the war. Over the years, it gradually evolved into a loan fund for students pursuing a veterinary degree. Since its inception, over \$9,000,000.00 has been loaned to over 3,350 students.

Today, the need for financial support of veterinary students is escalating. According to a JAVMA Facts and Figures article, Vol. 227, No. 7, October 1, 2005, the mean debt increased 9.6% from 2004 to 2005. Mean educational debt among those with debt was \$88,077 in 2005. In comparison, graduates in 2004 had a mean debt of \$81,052. In 2005, 80.6% of those new graduates incurred a debt of \$40,000 or more. The predicted debt figures for 2006 are even higher.

The Auxiliary to the AVMA would like to make the Student Loan Fund more effective. Students have an obvious need and we have money to loan. The SLF has not been very visible to students during the past few years, so this year our number one goal is to promote the loan fund. There is a new Student Loan Fund brochure that has been distributed to every veterinary college. We have added two new deadlines so that loans are more accessible. Completed applications must be submitted to the Office of the Auxiliary to the AVMA by September 1, December 1, March 1, and June 1. Our 3% loans are available to qualifying junior and senior veterinary students. Applications and additional information can be obtained from the Auxiliary website: www.avmaaux.org

Beverly Richardson
VP Student Loan Fund

LOAN APPLICATIONS ONLINE AT AVMAAUX.ORG

After graduation,
memories of
Vet School
should be the
good times,
not the
high interest
loan payments
you are making.



AUXILIARY TO THE AVMA

Student
Loan
Fund

Spot Light on a “Chris Barrett”

The Auxiliary to the AVMA would like to **thank** Chris Barrett for the recent work he has done to boost participation through the design of a new Membership brochure as well as a brochure for the Student Loan fund. Chris is originally from Camarillo, CA. He attended the University of California at Davis, where he received a B.S. degree in Visual Communications Design, and a Minor in Religious Studies. After graduation he moved with his wife, Natalie, to Manhattan, KS. Natalie is now a third year vet student at Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Chris currently works for S&N Design, a local design company, as a graphic designer as well and maintains a small freelance business on the side. He is also very involved in the Kansas chapter of the Student Auxiliary to the AVMA (S.O.K.S.), where he is a local officer.



2006 Student Auxiliary Meeting Minutes

The 2006 Student Auxiliary Meeting was held in the Penthouse at the beautiful Imperial Waikiki Hotel in Honolulu, HI. The meeting began with lunch and pictures.

Other items discussed include the following:

- A discussion was held regarding the one vote that the Student Auxiliary Members have. It was decided that Ryan Frederick would represent the Student Auxiliary vote. We decided that we were okay with all four changes.
- Discussed importance of greeting freshman students at orientation to make them aware that there is a support group available for their spouse and significant other.

Fundraisers

GEORGIA-*Finals Packets and Bracelets*

New Ideas-Book Store Bags, Lunches to Go Kits

TEXAS A & M-*Finals Survival Kits, Fun Run-Pets for Vets-October-Advertise to community and vet students, get local sponsors for door prizes (gym memberships, jewelers), give out medals donated by a local business, bigger sponsors listed on back of T-shirts, Christmas Cards-sketch of Vet School, Graduation Invitations-\$1800 made, local printer for packages, note pads with DVM, framed display with commencement date, Parent's Weekend-T-shirts, kids scrubs with "future vet" with picture of kid, huge success, jewelry donations.*

New Ideas-hit sponsors at the beginning of their fiscal year

MISSISSIPPI-*All College Day-Sold T-shirts, Valentine's Day Raffle, Dog Wash-Fort Dodge and Iams sponsored*

OHIO-*Finals Packets-mug from local companies as well as other donations from local company, Iams donates food, Graduation Invitations-use a local printing company, Dog Jerseys-valleyvet.com,*

Social Events-*Great Date Challenge, can only spend \$10, the person with the best date won a prize, Christmas Party-Chinese gift exchange, cookouts, Game Works, Autographed Football*

KANSAS-*Emblems with Vet School Logo, Cat Town-tailgating sponsored by University, auxiliary hosts, sets up and takes down, mingle, recruit, donations accepted, money goes to scholarships, Open House-coin toss, throw quarters in buckets to win prizes, Pfizer donation of \$1500, use money for a handbook for new students that lists community information, list Auxiliary activity dates in the handbook, coupons, ads from local companies to help offset costs, Logo Shirts-Pfizer logo on the shirt,*

New Idea-use corporate sponsor on all materials and in all fundraising activities to encourage corporate sponsorship,

Social Events-encourage children activities, Newlywed Game for Valentine's Day, Cookouts, Digital Picture Scavenger Hunt,

Scholarships-Drawings at meetings, previous winners cannot be eligible at end

IOWA-*Steak Knives, order from a company, sell at IVMA and at Christmas, Polo Shirts, gentle doctor schedule and Vet logo, T-shirts for Kids, Bibs*

How can we help other schools get more involved?

Take personal contact with the schools, divide by region, contact state auxiliary

- Beverly Richardson from Kansas State spoke about the National Auxiliary. The national auxiliary has not done well with recruiting members as they come out of school. One of the reasons is due to privacy issues. Feels that the "Auxiliary" is antiquated and wants to change it. Suggestion that the board meet at Student Symposium for suggestions with recruiting and what we would like. Stipends of \$300 to help spouses attend meeting. This could include recent graduates as well. Will consider changing the name "Auxiliary."
- Jan Knewtson, Treasurer of the AVMA, spoke regarding Tax Exemption on non-profit organizations. Handouts were distributed listing major points of interest.

Minutes prepared by Melissa Sanders
University of Georgia



UC DAVIS

Students and significant others at the University of California, Davis gathered in September to welcome its newest class of 131 students to the School of Veterinary Medicine. TGIF outdoor receptions are a tradition here, and our first one of the academic year afforded the opportunity for our dozen or more student organizations to set up tables and recruit new members. Our SCAVMA table was well attended, in large part due to the presence for the first time of a representative of the AVMA Auxiliary.

There was a tremendous amount of interest in establishing a local branch of the Auxiliary to help couples adapt to the ups and downs of being a vet student. Living in a college town of around 63,000 people, approximately 30,000 of which are students, and whose largest employer is UC Davis, it's easy here to feel isolated when your significant other is in class most of the time. We're hoping that a thriving local Auxiliary will emerge to help everyone (students and their families) make their experience at UC Davis a great success.

Phil Kass DVM Ph.D
Department Chairman

Texas A&M University SCAVMA Auxiliary

Howdy from Texas A&M! It was great to meet many of you this summer in Hawaii! I know we all had a fabulous time! I was excited to be a part of such a welcoming and genuinely caring organization! A special thanks to all the AVMA Auxiliary officers and members for showing us all the ropes. It was truly a memorable trip!

Our year has truly started in grand Texas style! So far our events have been big and exciting. We welcomed all students, old and new, back with our annual Howdy Hamburger. We gained 6 new members who are very active already. It was great to meet new students and their spouses as well as catch up with past members. In September we had a great turnout for our first meeting and tour. In October we gave a presentation over Hawaii at our meeting and it was nice to see and feel the excitement about the opportunities Auxiliary has to offer. October also allowed us the time to have our monthly social event of a meal out on the town and bowling. We all had a great time and the girls have the bragging rights. The boys say a rematch is on the horizon. We look forward to our annual Fun Run, officer elections in November and a Christmas party in December.

I would like to say a special thanks to all those people I have come to know in Auxiliary as an officer the past 2 ½ years. Our Past President, Jeannie Baggs, thanks for leaving a great legacy. My President-Elect, Christy Black, thanks for always pitching in to get a job done without complaining. Secretaries, Danielle McElwee, & Carly Weiswurm, thanks for lending your time and talents when it was much needed. Historians, Elizabeth Hayes, Jinon Sanders, and Emily Bass, thanks for helping us all document the fun and memorable times together for years to come. Treasurer, Kelly Lockhart, thanks for keeping us all in line and sane during some tough financial times. I have been blessed to work with people, both officers & members of

great character, integrity and talent. Although my officer days are done here at Texas A&M I will never forget your support and will continue to help in any way possible. As the torch is past to a new slate of officers I challenge you to create a new vision, challenge the old, and remember your purpose! Auxiliary first and foremost should promote lifelong friendships! I am so lucky to have served as an officer in an organization in which I have been blessed with life long friendships!

Thanks

Denae Dorris

TAMU Auxiliary President 2006



TAMU auxiliarians
would like to ask a special favor from all of you!

Please keep our Sponsor **Martha Russell**, in your prayers as she has experienced several surgeries recently and has Chemo yet to come! She is a true blessing to our organization!

Iowa State University *Greetings from “Cyclone Country”*

The Iowa State University SCAVMA Auxiliary has started the 2006-2007 school year on a great note! There were a large number of fresh, new faces for our first meeting of the school year in September. We had a nice variety of first year spouses and significant others in attendance as well as others from the upper classes.

The ISU Auxiliary spent their first meeting getting to know one another and brainstorming ideas and events for the school year. The fall semester will be filled with home football game tailgating hamburger and hot dog sales, merchandise/Rada knife sales at the IVMA Convention, meeting pot lucks, finals care package sales, numerous homecoming activities, and the election of new executive officers.

The Auxiliary would like to thank everyone who purchased our Rada knives at the July AVMA Convention in Hawaii. The merchandise sale supporting the Iowa State University SCAVMA Auxiliary was a huge success. Thank You!

Executive officers, on behalf of the entire ISU SCAVMA Auxiliary, would also like to thank Marilyn McGill for a wonderful September evening dinner out. We had a great time discussing our student auxiliary efforts at Iowa State University and talking about the future of the Auxiliary to the AVMA. Thank you, Marilyn; it was great getting to meet you!

The ISU SCAVMA Auxiliary is looking forward to a great fall semester and wishes the best for all other student Auxiliaries this 2006-2007 school year.

Meredith Shirbroun, Secretary
Iowa State University
SCAVMA Auxiliary



Greetings from Tiger Country!!

Crystal Bell, President

Hope everyone's year is off to a great start! This year is promising our club some great opportunities. Our club has, basically, re-dedicated and has become very proactive. Many things we will be doing this year will be a "first" for us. We started off in June sending out information packets, filled with invitations, coupons, maps, gift certificates and club brochures, to the potential members. Then in August, followed with our Welcome Fish Fry and Picnic, we gained some new members and had a blast doing it. Prior to our "official picnic", we provided dinner for over 13 spouses new to the area, while their students were going through a team building orientation. This was great, we received a lot of good feedback from the dinner, plus the food was great! So, we have put a lot of effort into getting our club out there!

We have been gathering for two social events each month, plus our monthly meeting. We have done everything from dinner out, to movie/game night, gone to Six Flags, and we are planning a skeet shoot shortly. Our club is a majority of women right now, but this year we have added more new men than women. Therefore, the idea of Monday night football, among other things, is intriguing.

On October 7th, the Vet Student had a dog jog in which owners would run with their dogs and compete for best times. We thought this an opportunity to hold our Dog Wash. It was a beautiful day, and we had great attendance, not only in the number of dogs washed, but the number of members that participated. We have an awesome, hard working group this year.

We are becoming busy planning new events for fall, like a RollerSkating night open to all students and faculty, sponsoring a two local children for Christmas, Hockey Games, Team Building, Valentines Raffles, Goodie Bags, and we are even beginning the planning on the Open House in 2007! So, needless to say we are hard at work, and even harder at play!!

As a newly rededicated group, we are anxious to see what this year will bring, and would love to hear any and all new ideas!! We wish you and your groups all the best this year, and will keep you in our thoughts!

From all of us here at Mizzou, Good Luck to you!!



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

Fun Times at MU

This year has been a great transitional year for the Auxiliary. We are staying busy and have members who are really dedicated to our club. So far this year we've had our annual new member fish fry. We also took some of the first year Vet student's spouses out to dinner for "An evening out, while your spouse is away," while the 1st year students were out of town for orientation. We went to Six Flags with the group as well. We had our Annual Dog Wash fundraiser in October and washed an amazing 33 dogs. We've also started our semi-annual goodie bags fundraiser that family members can buy for the students. The goodie bags will be handed out in December and will be filled with supplies from pharmaceutical companies and snacks. We are also selling tickets and getting ready for a Skating Night Party for the entire Vet school, friends, and family. We've been having a lot of fun this year and we hope to continue with our momentum and help support the students, significant others, and educate the community about our organization and the Veterinary profession! Go MU!!

Michelle Runyon – Secretary Auxiliary
University of Missouri – Veterinary Medicine
502 Waldo Ct
Columbia, Mo 65202



LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

The L.S.U. SCAVMA Auxiliary has had a wonderful start to the 2006-07 school year. Our back to school social was a tremendous success, with a terrific turnout! It was a red beans and rice dinner for the auxiliary and students. The students were so appreciative of a home-cooked meal compared to the fast-food diet many of them usually eat.

At new student orientation, we were able to sign up many new members, including spouses, parents and grandparents. We've also designed three new t-shirts and license plate holders to sell to raise funds for scholarships.

Saturday, November 4th is our largest fundraiser, Santa Paws, where pets and their families take pictures with Santa Paws. The money raised from this event goes towards scholarships for the students. We're looking forward to our December social and also to open house, which is held at the vet school in February.

Kathleen Leto. Co-President

Mississippi

Hello from Mississippi! We are excited to start another year, and update everyone on what's been going on in Bulldog country.

We finished last year on a high note with our "Mud Dawgs Dog Wash" for National Pet Week in May. In order to reach a larger number of people, we advertised the event on the local radio and TV. We were able to set up our Dog Wash at the Oktibbeha County Co-Op, instead of the vet school, which gave us more community exposure. The Dog Wash was a lot of fun and a great success, despite some rain early on! We raised approximately \$450, which we split with the Oktibbeha County Humane Society. The Dog Wash also had the largest participation from our volunteers; nearly 20 members and vet students were present.

We started this year's activities by co-hosting the "Welcome Back Pig Roast" with SCAVMA. SCAVMA provided the pig and side dishes, and the Auxiliary furnished the desserts. This event was a lot of fun, and a

great chance for us to meet some of the first year students and their significant others. We were excited to see many of them at our first regular meeting of the year! Our other fall activities include tailgating at the seven home football games, a potluck Thanksgiving dinner, providing food for the vet students during exam week through our "Late Night Crunch Brunch," and our Christmas party.

In addition to our activities, we are also very excited about our new fundraiser. We worked together to design "MSU College of Veterinary Medicine Mom/Dad" shirts, as well as new "MSU College of Veterinary Medicine" shirts. Our first shipment pre-ordered shirts has just arrived, and more will be available at our events throughout the school year.



The MSU Student Auxiliary is so excited to be starting its second year! We are looking forward to getting to know our new members, being involved in the community and in the vet school family, and being a support and encouragement to each other.

Colorado State University Auxiliary

The Colorado State University SCAVMA Auxiliary chapter started their new year with several social activities and business meetings in September 2006. The first social was held at Coopersmith's Pub & Brewing in Fort Collins, Colorado for pool, beer and appetizers. There were approximately 12 members and vet students present at this activity. In following with tradition, the Auxiliary picked up the cost for this first social.

The second social activity for the CSU Auxiliary was a trip to Severance, Colorado where some of the members and vet students feasted on a local delicacy - Rocky Mountain Oysters and beer. Bruce's Bar is a landmark in northern Colorado and the Auxiliary is lucky to have a member who works as a bartender there. This meeting at the bar was to have been followed with a trip to a local corn maze, but that activity was postponed due to weather.

In business matters, the CSU Auxiliary has begun work on their annual CarePack fundraiser. CarePacks are composed of totebags filled with snacks, study supplies, small gifts and donations from local businesses and veterinary related companies. The families and friends of veterinary students purchase these bags for \$20-\$25 depending on the gifts included. The CarePacks are then delivered to the students during the week before finals. This has been the major fundraiser for the CSU group and raises enough funds to provide two \$500 scholarships each year.



David Jensen
Stephanie Tarry Yoo
CSU SCAVMA Auxiliary
CVMBS Deans Office
1601 Campus Delivery
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1601

University of Georgia

Greetings from Dawg country! We have been very busy this summer. In June, three of our members traveled to Destin, Florida for the annual Georgia Veterinarian Medical Association Convention. We attended a luncheon, where we met with several Georgia Auxiliary members. We also enjoyed the view of Florida's white, sandy beaches and crystal clear waters.

In July, we visited beaches that were very different from the ones in Florida. We attended the AVMA in beautiful Honolulu, Hawaii. It was a wonderful opportunity to visit with and learn about other student auxiliaries throughout the U.S. Our student meeting was very beneficial. We talked about how we could increase membership numbers and how we could involve more schools.

As August rolled around and school began, we went skiing and boating on Lake Oconee with a few members from SCAVMA. This event was hosted by Dr. Gary and Brenda Bullard. We had a great time!

We have many fundraisers scheduled throughout the year. Our first fundraiser was very successful. We sold bracelets during one of the home football games. Everyone was very supportive and even requesting special bracelets and necklaces in the future. For our next scheduled fundraiser, we are planning to sell final's packets in December.

We wish the best of luck to all Auxiliaries throughout this school year!

Christy Winston, President
University of Georgia SCAVMA Auxiliary

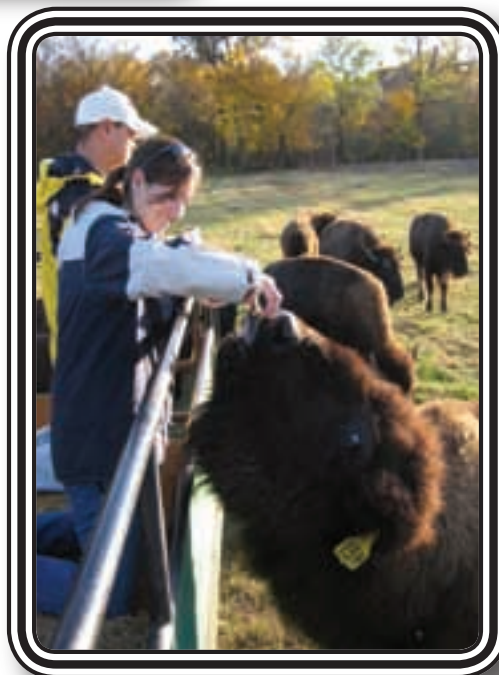


KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

The Buffalo Experience
S.O.K.S.
Significant Others of Kansas State Vet Med



For our October social we had 14 people go out to a local buffalo farm where we had the opportunity to visit the buffalo up close and personal. We were taken out on a trailer and the heard surrounded us. We were given alfalfa pellets to feed them, and we had several who were excited to be hand feed. While we feed



the buffalo we were educated on the hierarchy within the heard, and the healthy alternative that buffalo meat can make. Following the feeding, we all went back to the barn and had buffalo burgers. We all had a lot of fun and thought it was a great experience. Many people were talking about planning future visits and buying buffalo meat. It was a great opportunity for the significant others and vet students to spend quality time together, and just getting out of the city and the stresses of work and school made for a pleasant break.

SAVMA AUXILIARY OFFICERS

2006-2007

GEORGIA

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Vice President-Treasurer - Melissa Sanders
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IOWA

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Vice President - Tracie Bordelon

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PENNSYLVANIA

Auxiliar Committee - Sara McWilliams
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“Striving to Make Difference”

Once again we have begun a new year with many new freshman beginning their journey into the veterinary profession. The next few years will be difficult for them as they strive to obtain their goal in life. It is so important to give support during these trying years ahead. Our goal as an Auxiliary is to provide the support for the spouse or significant other while the student is so involved with their education. It is important that we recognize the career of the non veterinary student as they are equally as important and their future is also.

As leaders in the Auxiliary we want to share the opportunities that the Auxiliary offers. The Student Loan fund is one of the important functions that the auxiliary has adopted. We are also the leaders in National Pet week which is held the first week of May each year and many national sponsors have joined to help us fund this large national campaign. We have monetary rewards for the “Outstanding Student” as well as the “Outstanding Auxiliary member”.

The “Outstanding Student Auxiliary Members” for the year 2005-2006 are; **Jason Cunningham-Ohio, Stacie Reddick- Louisiana, Kristy Sparks-Missouri, Melissa Sanders-Georgia, Jennie Baggs-Texas A&M.** Each receiving \$100.00. There were 25, \$300.00 awards given to Outstanding Students by the Auxiliary.

The participation that you endeavor during your time as supporters to the veterinary student is very important.

Our goal this year is to help establish or reestablish more support groups such as UC Davis, Colorado, Auburn & Western States as well keep those that are already active, participating in the Student Auxiliary. Through the many visits to the veterinary colleges, I have been able to enlist the expertise of computer literate student auxiliary members to get the manual and report forms as well as the Intercom on line. It can be found at www.avmaaux.org. under Student Auxiliaries.

Marilyn McGill

President Elect/Vice President Student Auxiliaries



AUXILIARY TO THE AVMA

Membership Levels

Active membership is available to members of the immediate family of veterinarians who are in good standing of the AVMA. As an active member you are able to participate fully in all aspects of the Auxiliary.



Affiliate membership is for those who work in the animal care industry. (For example, you may be the secretary at a veterinary clinic or a chemist in the pet food/drug industry.)



Support membership is for those who would like to support the activities and programs of the Auxiliary.



Visit us online at
avmaaux.org

Who We Are

The Auxiliary to the AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association) is a non-profit organization that helps to connect the members of the veterinary community and promote animal care and the role of the veterinarian.

Since 1917, we have supported and addressed the unique needs, problems, and issues that face veterinary medicine.



Why Join?

- **Strengthen the veterinary family**
- **Build ties with local community**
- **Opportunities to network with peers at national and local conferences**
- **Promote optimal animal care**
- **Assist veterinary students with career objectives through the student loan fund**

What we do

We created and administer the Auxiliary Student Loan Fund (SLF). The Auxiliary raises money locally through dedicated hard work to continually assist veterinary students with career objectives through the student loan fund. Over \$9,000,000 has been loaned to 3,254 students since the inception of the SLF.

Another way the Auxiliary promotes veterinary medicine is through National Pet Week (NPW). Founded by the Auxiliary and in partnership with the AVMA, NPW is an annual event that focuses on promoting animal care and welfare. The Auxiliary also supports the National Science Fair and 4-H Veterinary Science project with recognition and awards.

All of our members receive *Auxiliary News* and all Student Auxiliary members receive *Intercom* newsletter.

With your support and ideas we can continue our current projects and develop new projects. We look forward to working together with you in promoting the veterinary profession which is a vital part of our lives.

