

TUSKEGEE VETERINARY MEDICAL PERSPECTIVE

2021

VOL. 44 NO. 2



TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
Spring Commencement, Hooding and Oath Ceremony for the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Graduates-Class of 2021



TUSKEGEE
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
Office of the Dean



Greetings and welcome to this issue of the 2021 *Veterinary Medical Perspective* magazine. Due to the many challenges impacted by the pandemic, this issue highlights a combination of events and accomplishments over the past year, and the largest issue produced to date. We also highlight the important work of our faculty and staff, the achievements of our students, and the contributions from our alumni, stakeholders, and industry partners.

Despite the challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, we ended the spring semester with a successful Spring Commencement, Hooding and Oath Ceremony for the veterinary Class of 2021. The graduation ceremony was held in person on Saturday, May 1st in the University Chapel and virtually for those who were unable to attend. I want to first congratulate our new alumni for their endurance and resilience to achieve the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree and welcome them as colleagues into the veterinary profession. I also want to recognize our graduate students achieving the Ph.D. degree in Interdisciplinary Pathobiology, the Master of Public Health (M.P.H) degree and the M.S. degree in Veterinary Science. The graduate students were celebrated at the University Commencement held on Sunday, May 30th at Cramton Bowl in Montgomery, Alabama.

On March 17-19, 2021, the 55th Annual Veterinary Medical Symposium was held virtually utilizing Mediasite[®], a professional event platform. Our symposium committee worked diligently to get RACE approval for continuing education and to ensure that the event was professional, beneficial, and enjoyable for all participants. The Reunion Classes of **1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971 (50th year-golden class), 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996 (25th year-silver class), 2001, 2006, 2011, & 2016** were honored and celebrated. I want to especially say “thank you” to our dedicated and loyal alumni and reunion classes for their financial support. Because of the active engagement of the Class Representatives and the option for online donations, we had a record year of contributions collected totaling **\$175,944.00** at this year’s symposium. Reunion Classes, “you have set the bar and made history” for other Reunion Classes to meet and exceed the mark! We are certainly looking forward to our in-person 56th Annual Veterinary Medical Symposium next year. So, mark your calendars for **March 24-26, 2022** and look for upcoming communications.

I want to also express my sincere gratitude to the many industry partnerships we have formed to financially assist our students and further veterinary medical education here at Tuskegee. I am excited to share that since August 2020 donations, pledges, services, and sponsorships received from industry partnerships have resulted in over **\$4 million** for TUCVM students and academic programs. You can read more about these gifts in “Development News” in this issue of the *Perspective*.

Again, I am thankful for each of you for your support in various ways to sustain our legacy and strengthen our mission. I remain optimistic and hopeful as we continue to navigate through the pandemic to a promising future. As always, please be mindful to self-care and remain safe and healthy and look forward to seeing you next year in March 2022!

Kind regards,

Ruby L. Perry, DVM, Ph.D., DACVR
Dean and Professor of Veterinary Radiology

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TUCVM is appreciative to our faithful alumni, Dr. Sarah Waithe and Dr. Ashtri Bonaparte (both Class of 2009), for their generous donation of scrubs to our Small Animal Veterinary Technicians team during the spring semester.



Dr. Deidre Quinn-Gorham, from the Department of Pathobiology, (left) is presenting over 200 towels she received as a donation from the Standard Textile Company, Inc., (Cincinnati, Ohio) to TUCVM's Hospital Director Dr. Jeannine Bellamy (right) for the teaching hospital's towel drive on behalf of the Class of 2021.

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Tuskegee University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (sacscoc.org) to award baccalaureate, master's, doctoral and professional degrees.

www.tuskegee.edu/vetmed



ON THE COVER:
 TUCVM 2021 Spring Commencement...Class of 2021 Graduates

Building a More Diverse, Equitable and Inclusive New Generation of Veterinarians: “American Humane Scholars Fund” provides \$40,000 to help support veterinary students at Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine (TUCVM)

TUCVM is the first recipient of the \$40,000 grant

Caring, understanding and love are universal attributes that transcend every boundary and are basic requirements for keeping our pets happy and healthy. Yet participation in the very field responsible for this key task is far from universal, with African-Americans making up fewer than 3 percent of all veterinarians in the United States.

To help build a more diverse, equitable and inclusive new generation of medical professionals committed to caring for our animals, American Humane, the country’s first national humane organization, has created the “American Humane Scholars Fund” to support students of color in their quest to become veterinarians. An inaugural grant of \$40,000, sponsored by leading animal health company Zoetis, was made in October to the historic Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine. The announcement was broadcast nationwide on October 19 during the American Humane Hero Dog Awards®: 10th Anniversary Celebration on Hallmark Channel.

Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine is the only veterinary medical professional program located on the campus of a historically black college or university in the United States. Tuskegee has educated more than 70 percent of the nation’s African-American veterinarians and is recognized as the most diverse of all accredited schools/colleges of veterinary medicine in the United States.

Veterinarians play a key role at American Humane as their knowledge informs the organization’s scientific standards and guidelines protecting nearly one billion animals on farms and ranches, in zoological institutions and on film sets around the world. American Humane veterinarians are also hard at work in the field, staffing free medical clinics for pets in under-resourced areas, rescuing animals in disaster zones and transporting shelter animals across the country.

“We couldn’t do the work we do around the world without veterinarians,” said Dr. Robin Ganzert, American Humane president and CEO. “We also know that becoming a veterinarian can be costly, and for many aspiring students that financial hurdle may be the only thing standing in the way of their dream to help ani-



Dean Ruby L. Perry and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Roslyn Casimir hold inaugural grant check from American Humane and Zoetis.

“Sustaining Our Legacy” Through Partnerships... TUCVM in collaboration with industry have established intentional support and programming for the TUCVM and its students. Since August 2020 industry partnerships in the form of scholarships, grants, sponsorships, gifts, and services, have resulted in over \$4 million of industry giving. We extend appreciation to our industry partners as they join our valued alumni, stakeholders and TUCVM family in sustaining and advancing the TUCVM’s legacy.

INDUSTRY PARTNERS

- Alabama Veterinary Medical Association
- American Humane
- American Veterinary Medical Association
- Banfield
- Banfield Pet Hospital
- Boehringer Ingelheim
- CareCredit/Synchrony Solution
- Hill’s Pet Nutrition and the American Veterinary Medical Foundation
- IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.
- National Veterinary Associates Compassion First
- Nestle Purina PetCare
- PetDesk
- Royal Canin US
- Synchrony Foundation
- Tuskegee Veterinary Medicine Alumni Association
- United States Department of Agriculture
- United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
- Veterinary Practice Partners
- Zinpro Corporation
- Zoetis

imals. That's why, as CEO of American Humane, I am proud to announce, in partnership with inaugural sponsor Zoetis, that we are presenting our first American Humane Scholars Fund grant of \$40,000 to the historic Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine."

"American Humane's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion is rooted in nearly 150 years of progressive work that has built the humane movement in this country and around the world," said Von Scott, American Humane's Committee for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion chair. "With the help of a new generation of humane heroes such as these promising new champions for animals from Tuskegee, we can change not only lives . . . we can change the world."

"Zoetis has had a long-time commitment to supporting veterinary medical students and university diversity initiatives. Our Zoetis Veterinary Student Scholarship Program has awarded over 3,600 scholarships totaling more than \$7 million over the

past 12 years," said Christine Jenkins, DVM, DACVIM, Vice President and U.S. Chief Medical Officer at Zoetis. "We are pleased to partner with American Humane to provide additional scholarship opportunities for Tuskegee veterinary medical students."

"We are very grateful to American Humane and Zoetis for partnering to support our students in the American Humane Scholars Fund. Their vision and generosity in this endeavor will support our deserving students seeking careers in veterinary medicine. Our alumna, Dr. Christine Jenkins, has been a consistent proponent of veterinary medical education opportunities for our students in which we are appreciative as well. We at Tuskegee focus on our students being career-ready veterinarians when they complete the curriculum to pursue the many employment opportunities in the veterinary profession," said Dr. Ruby L. Perry, dean of the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine. 🐾

TUCVM appreciates your support!

For donation questions, please contact L. Kay Allen,

Executive Director of Resource Development and External Relations, 334-724-4178; lkallen@tuskegee.edu

American Humane Hero Dogs 10th Anniversary Celebration on the Hallmark Channel featuring announcement of the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine as the recipient of the inaugural \$40,000 grant from American Humane and Zoetis.

<https://herodogawards.org/>

<https://www.watchhallmarktv.com/#/movies/American+Humane+Hero+Dog+Awards%3A+10th+Anniversary+Celebration>



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AMERICAN HUMANE
FIRST TO SERVE®

About American Humane

American Humane is the country's first national humane organization. For more information please visit www.AmericanHumane.org, and please follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

About Zoetis

Zoetis is the leading animal health company, dedicated to supporting its customers and their businesses. Building on more than 65 years of experience in animal health, Zoetis discovers, develops, manufactures and commercializes medicines, vaccines and diagnostic products, which are complemented by biodevices, genetic tests and precision livestock farming. Zoetis serves veterinarians, livestock producers and people who raise and care for farm and companion animals with sales of its products in more than 100 countries. In 2019, the company generated annual revenue of \$6.3 billion with approximately 10,600 employees. For more information, visit www.zoetis.com.

American Veterinary Medical Foundation and Hill's Pet Nutrition partner to offer scholarships for Tuskegee University veterinary students

Hill's Pet Nutrition and the American Veterinary Medical Foundation announced a new scholarship program for students at Tuskegee University's renowned College of Veterinary Medicine.

A \$45,000 endowment from Hill's will fund the program at Tuskegee. Tuskegee's veterinary scholarship committee will identify the awardees annually, starting with the 2021-2022 academic year, based upon criteria to be developed by the College and the Foundation.

"We are very grateful to Hill's for its vision and generosity, and we look forward to working with colleagues at Tuskegee University to help open doors of opportunity for students seeking careers in veterinary medicine," said Dr. John Howe, chair of the AVMF Board of Directors.

Dr. Jolle Kirpensteijn, Chief Professional Veterinary Officer, Hill's US says, "Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine under the leadership of Dean Ruby Perry has been the veterinary school that promotes diversity within veterinary medicine and all professions associated with our great profession. Hill's Pet Nutrition is proud to support our only HBCU Veterinary College in our commitment to promote diversity and equality all over the world."

"I concur with Dr. Howe and thank Hill's for their support of our veterinary college and students to support the future of



American Veterinary Medical Foundation and Hill's Pet Nutrition partner to offer scholarships for Tuskegee University veterinary students

College of Veterinary Medicine students benefit from a scholarship program

veterinary medicine. We at Tuskegee focus on our students being career-ready veterinarians when they complete the curriculum and encourage their pursuits of the vast areas of career choices in the veterinary profession. The generosity of Hill's will help our students achieve this goal," said Dr. Ruby L. Perry, dean of the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine.

The specific number and dollar amount of the scholarships that will be awarded each academic year under the initial endowment will be determined by the College and Foundation, which also will seek to raise additional funds so that in the future, the amount and number of scholarships can be increased. 🌟

About AVMF

American Veterinary Medical Foundation (AVMF) is the charitable arm of the AVMA. AVMF is committed to helping offset the cost of veterinary medical education. Donations support outstanding veterinary students who are addressing the health and research needs of society – both today and tomorrow. For more than 50 years, the Foundation has been helping veterinarians help animals with support for animal welfare, disaster relief, public education, veterinary student scholarships, research, and advocacy programs and activities.

About Hill's Pet Nutrition

Founded more than 75 years ago with an unwavering commitment to pet nutrition, Hill's mission is to help enrich and lengthen the special relationships between people and their pets. The right nutrition combined with the devotion of veterinary professionals can transform the lives of pets, and healthier and happier pets can transform the lives of pet parents. Hill's is dedicated to pioneering research and groundbreaking nutrition for dogs and cats based on a scientific understanding of their specific needs. HILL'S® Prescription Diet® therapeutic pet foods, HILL'S® Science Diet® and HILL'S® Ideal Balance™ wellness pet foods are sold through veterinarians and pet specialty retailers worldwide.



Nestle Purina \$65K Scholarship to TUCVM Student



TUCVM alumna Dr. Callie Harris with former 2019 Nestle Purina Student Representatives.



The Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine (TUCVM) is very appreciative to Nestle Purina PetCare for their commitment to veterinary medical education at Tuskegee and increasing the representation of African American males in the veterinary medicine profession in partnership with TUCVM with the Purina Academic Achievement Scholarship. TUCVM is also appreciative to alumna Dr. Callie Harris (Foley) '08, Veterinary Communications Manager for the Professional Engagement Team at Nestle Purina PetCare, for her continuous support of her Alma Mater as a representative of Nestle Purina.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM NESTLE PURINA....

Purina Promotes Racial Diversity in the Veterinary Field Through Tuskegee University Scholarship Fund

Nestle Purina's veterinary division is committed to supporting university programs that promote diversity in the veterinary field. Nestle Purina is focused on supporting programs that raise awareness of careers in veterinary medicine within marginalized groups, help reduce financial barriers for minority students to attend veterinary school, and expand veterinary care services in under resourced communities.

The company proudly announces a \$65,000 grant award to one deserving student at Tuskegee University's College of Veterinary Medicine with an educational scholarship.

Much of this funding was granted from the Nestle Purina Trust Fund, which was established by Purina founder William H. Danforth to provide critical support to important community causes. Through the foundation, Purina invests more than \$1 million into our communities by funding capital and capacity-building projects.

"Purina has been sharing our resources to strengthen our communities and fund critical needs since our inception," said Kim Beardslee, Director of Purina Community Affairs. "Our founder, Mr. Danforth, laid the foundation more than 125 years ago, and those values are still ingrained in our company culture today."

Over the past five years, Purina has contributed more than \$150 million in monetary grants and Purina pet food and litter donations to organizations that help bring, and keep, people and pets together, as well as those that strengthen our communities and help our environment thrive.

Three Veterinary Students selected for the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Foreign Service Veterinary Fellowship

TUCVM is pleased to have the first students selected as participants in the inaugural USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Foreign Service Veterinary Fellowship program. Patricia Bradley and Kennedy Miller, both members of the TUCVM Class of 2023, and Terrance Mitchell, a member of the TUCVM Class of 2024, were selected in the spring 2021 semester as the first recipients of the USDA Fellowship.

Howard University administers the APHIS Foreign Service Fellowship Program on behalf of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is entrusted to select the program's candidates. The USDA APHIS Foreign Service Veterinary Fellowship was originally targeted for only two TUCVM students. However, the selection panel at Howard University was so impressed by the caliber of TUCVM's students and the decision was changed to award the fellowship to three deserving veterinary students. Dr. Lily López-McGee, Director of the Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Program at Howard University, who chaired the selection team, thanked TUCVM for helping her team to secure excellent candidates. Dr. Gopal Reddy, Director of International Programs for TUCVM, serves as the Tuskegee University liaison for this program.

The Foreign Service Veterinary Fellowship Program provides each selected TUCVM student

The USDA APHIS Foreign Veterinary Service TUCVM Fellowship Recipients:



Patricia Bradley

Patricia Bradley is from Birmingham, Alabama. She is an alumna of Tuskegee University where she obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in 2012. Bradley is also a 2017 alumna of Alabama A&M University where she received her Master of Science degree. Bradley's interests in veterinary medicine include the following areas: dermatology, zoo and exotic medicine, and governmental service.



Kennedy V. Miller

Kennedy Miller is from Atlanta, Georgia, and the oldest of four children. She graduated from Georgia Southern University in 2015. In her free time, she enjoys reading, skateboarding, and finding new hiking trails and hopes to train her cat "Cosmo" to enjoy hikes just as much. After graduating with her DVM degree, Miller plans to pursue a full-time career with APHIS and explore all the various career opportunities afforded.



Terrance E. Mitchell

Terrance Mitchell is originally from Willingboro, New Jersey. He and his family now reside in Covington, Georgia. He is involved in several clubs/organizations at TUCVM. Mitchell graduated from Tuskegee University with a B.S degree in Animal Science and a minor in Biology. One of his biggest stress relievers is working with animals, specifically wildlife, exotics, and marine animals.

up to \$66,000 annually towards the completion of their DVM degree, two summer internships - one at APHIS Headquarters in Riverdale, Maryland, and one at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate. Each recipient will be mentored by Foreign Service Officers throughout the fellowship. Following successful completion of the fellowship program and graduation with their DVM degree, participants will be employed by the USDA APHIS Foreign Service.

The program has been designed to ensure that the Foreign Service reflects the face of America to foreign audiences and provides a source of trained men and women who are dedicated to pursuing Foreign Service careers with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

This Fellowship is for veterinary students interested in a unique and rewarding career that combines veterinary medicine and international diplomacy. APHIS Foreign Service Veterinary Officers represent the United States in countries around the world and do impactful work to protect and expand the integrity of American Agriculture by facilitating and resolving complex animal health problems. APHIS Foreign Service Officers play a leadership role in U.S. Embassies applying their scientific knowledge and diplomatic skills and collaborate with diverse counterparts worldwide in a variety of dynamic, challenging settings.

"We are grateful to the USDA APHIS International Services for its efforts in developing this unique fellowship program in which our students were selected as the first participants. The TUCVM is also appreciative to the Howard University Foreign Affairs Program selection team, our own TUCVM liaison Dr. Reddy, and the support of our alumnus, Dr. Eric Coleman '91. Dr. Coleman currently serves as Director of International Technical and Regulatory Capacity Building Center at USDA APHIS International Services," said Dr. Ruby L. Perry, Dean of the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine. 🌿

Two TUCVM Students Each Receive \$20K PetDesk Equity in Veterinary Medicine Scholarships



Pauline Hunter

The Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine (TUCVM) is appreciative for the partnership of PetDesk and the announcement of two TUCVM students named as recipients of the PetDesk Equity in Veterinary Medicine Scholarship during April. First-year student, Pauline Hunter, and fourth-year student, Alijah Bradford, were both awarded a \$20,000 scholarship each to help defray the cost of their veterinary medical education.



Alijah Bradford

Ms. Hunter is a member of the Class of 2024. From a very young age, she was naturally drawn to animals and made up her mind that she would be a veterinarian. Ms. Hunter received her bachelor's degree from Talladega College.

Ms. Bradford is a member of the Class of 2021. She completed her undergraduate studies at Tuskegee University also receiving a bachelor's degree in Animal and Veterinary Sciences in 2016.

Standard Textile Co. Donates Towels to Veterinary Teaching Hospital

During the month of April, the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine's senior Class of 2021 sponsored a towel drive soliciting the donation of towels for the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. Dr. Deidre Quinn-Gorham, Coordinator of Educational Programs and Instructional Technology in the Department of Pathobiology, reached out to a couple of textile companies for towel donations and received an email response from Executive Assistant, Ms. Tina Barbash, of the Standard Textile Company, Inc. Ms. Barbash replied that the company would be happy to donate towels to TUCVM's Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital (VMTH). As a result, over 200 new bath and hand towels were donated to the hospital. On behalf of Dean Perry, Dr. Bellamy, Dr. Quinn-Gorham and the TUCVM VMTH, we are appreciative to Ms. Barbash and the constituents of the Standard Textile Company, Inc., for their generous donation.

"We are very grateful to PetDesk for their inspiring and intentional commitment to the veterinary profession through the establishment of the PetDesk Equity in Veterinary Medicine Scholarship. The spirit of this scholarship aligns with the legacy of the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine to embrace and advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in the veterinary profession. PetDesk's vision and generosity will not only support students in the professional DVM program on track to becoming career-ready veterinarians, but also undergraduate pre-veterinary medical scholars aspiring to become veterinarians," said Dr. Ruby L. Perry, Dean of the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Awakened by the brutal murder of George Floyd in the summer of 2020, the PetDesk team decided to focus on giving marginalized groups, specifically people of color, better opportunities to pursue a career in veterinary medicine. Launching their PetDesk Equity in Veterinary Medicine Program in the fall of 2020, they hope to see 10 million dollars of scholarships and grants going to underrepresented minorities in veterinary medicine in 2030.

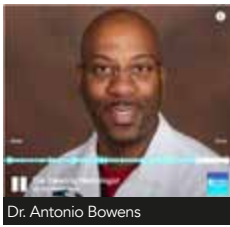
Taylor Cavanah, CEO and Co-Founder of PetDesk, spearheaded this scholarship program and strongly believes that the veterinary industry needs rebalancing. "When developing our Equity in Veterinary Medicine Program we knew we had to start at Tuskegee University. They have been dedicated to equity focused work for decades and we're honored to be a part of their larger programs, supporting those who need it most." Mr. Cavanah added, "This scholarship work is but a taste of the positive changes Tuskegee fosters on a daily basis and PetDesk looks forward to growing our impact together."

PetDesk is a company full of pet lovers passionate about promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in the veterinary industry. This scholarship recognizes students who join in this passion with a personal investment in equality, equity, and social justice. It also includes a focus to provide more equitable outcomes by lowering financial barriers for students pursuing a veterinary medical education.

PetDesk has also added a Pre-Veterinary Medicine (PVMS) Scholar Award of \$2,000 for three students in the spring semester or fall semester with years following 2021 at PetDesk's discretion. The Pre-Veterinary Medicine Scholars Program prepares students to fulfill academic requirements and acquire professional development desired of individuals pursuing admission into the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine. TUCVM's Dean in consultation with the Department Head of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences serve as Co-Advisors of the PVMS Program in the College of Agriculture, Environment and Nutrition Sciences (CAENS) and will select the award recipient(s).



Dr. Michael J. Blackwell '75 was named as the recipient of the 2021 Senator John Melcher, DVM Leadership in Public Policy Award from the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC). The award is sponsored by the Animal Policy Group. Dr. Blackwell currently serves as the Director of the Program for Pet Health Equity at the University of Tennessee, which exists to improve access to veterinary care, especially for families with limited means. The professional award was presented during the AAVMC's 2021 Annual Conference and Iverson Bell Symposium, which was held virtually March 3-5, 2021.



Dr. Antonio Bowens

Dr. Antonio Bowens '03 was featured in a podcast with *dvm360* where he shared his journey to becoming a traveling neurologist. For the past decade, Dr. Bowens has been practicing veterinary neurology and neurosurgery, first in a solo practice and then as a co-owner. Then Dr. Bowens decided to become a locum veterinary neurologist and neurosurgeon. He is now owner and head of neurology and neurosurgery at Veterinary Referral & Emergency Hospital in Arlington, Texas.



Dr. Priscilla Bowens

Dr. Priscilla Bowens '06 was featured during #womenshistorymonth, in JAVMA for her encouragement of the veterinary profession to better resemble the public it serves. Dr. Bowens is a public health researcher, health preparedness educator and health care legal counsel. Read more at: <https://www.avma.org/javma-news/2021-03-01/speaker-encourages-profession-better-resemble-public-it-serves>.

Dr. Charlette M. Cain '02 for #womenshistorymonth lead a Q&A on Diversity. Charlette Cain, DVM, MS, DACLAM, is the Associate Director of Veterinary Care and Training at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute.

Dr. Allen Cannedy '94 was featured in a Veterinary Viewfinder podcast with hosts Dr. Ernie Ward and Beckie Mosser, RVT for a real-world candid conversation about the challenges minorities face in veterinary medicine. Dr. Cannedy is NC State College of Veterinary Medicine's Director of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs.



He also served as the moderator for the recent AVMA Online Educator Community's Discussion, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Academia, held on June 23 in which Dean Perry and Dr. Christine Jenkins served on the panel with Dr. Douglas D. Kratt.



Dr. K. Paige Carmichael '87 gave a presentation on "Protecting the planet with a collaborative approach to health," I K. Paige Carmichael | TEDxUGA. YouTube, April 15, 2021. In presentation, Dr. Carmichael spoke on how the intersection of human, animal, and environmental health can create a more sustainable future. She is a professor of veterinary pathology in the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Georgia and previously served as the college's dean for academic affairs.

Tuskegee Chapter Tuskegee World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association (WAVMA's) hosted an Aquatic Webinar Series that featured TUCVM alumni as their speakers: **Dr. Dondrae Coble '05**, **Dr. Raphael Malbrue '14** and **Dr. Debra Moore '87**.

OVMA officer election results

OVMA's statewide elections were completed on Dec. 28. The following members were elected to terms beginning March 1, 2021:



- President: Dr. Ed Biggie (above, far left)
- President-Elect: Dr. Barb Musolf (second from left)
- Vice President: Dr. Eric Gordon (center)
- Secretary: Dr. Diana Cron (second from right)
- Director-at-Large: Dr. Dondrae Coble (far right)

Dr. Dondrae Coble '05 was elected to the Board of Directors for the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA) as the Director-at-Large. OVMA's statewide elections were completed on Dec. 28. The OVMA Board of Directors members were elected to terms beginning March 1, 2021.



Dr. William Draper

Dr. William Draper '91 was featured in the *Time Magazine* article, "Pet Owners Are Diverse, but Veterinarians Are Overwhelmingly White. Black Veterinarians Want to Change That, and can read at <https://time.com/5901334/black-veterinarians-diversity/>. Dr. Draper with his wife, Dr. Francoise Tyler '91, are the owners of the veterinary practice, The Village Vets.



Dr. Arvid Edward

Dr. Arvid Edward '98 is already known from his regular guest appearances on the popular television show, *The Doctors*. He now has a new endeavor with his show as *American Bondi Vet*. Dr. Edward was also featured online in *Atlanta Pet Life* due to his television profile.

Dr. Adrienne Edwards '84 recently opened her New Veterinary Hospital, *PetsFirst TLC*. It is located at 1915 Seminary Road in Silver Spring, Maryland; phone: 301-585-8852.



Dr. Kis R. Hale

Dr. Kis Robertson Hale '03 was selected for promotion to Assistant Surgeon General, Rear Admiral in the U.S. Public Health Service (JSPHS) Commissioned Corps. She holds the rank of Rear Admiral (RADM, O-7). Dr. Hale has served as The Deputy Assistant Administrator in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS).



Dr. Adrienne Edwards



Dr. Pamela Hale

Dr. Pamelar (Pam) Hale '86, Destination Pet's Chief Medical Officer, was featured in episode 39 of *The Vet Blast Podcast*, "Breaking glass ceilings in veterinary medicine" with Dr. Adam Christman. Dr. Hale discussed her path to corporate veterinary medicine and her thoughts on the current state of diversity, equity, and inclusion within the profession.

Dr. Callie Harris '08, Veterinary Communications Manager/Professional Engagement Team at Nestlé Purina PetCare, appeared as a judge on the new show "Pooch Perfect" on March 30 that premiered on ABC.



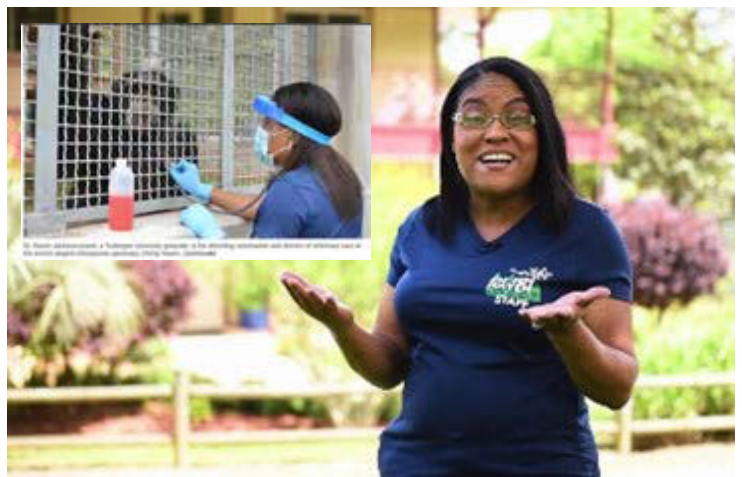
Dr. Antwain M. Howard

Dr. Antwain M. Howard '08 was promoted in November to USA Regional Head Veterinarian for Animal Welfare and Veterinary Services at Covance located in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dr. Thomas Hyatt '85 is the owner of Hyatt Veterinary Services and was one of the recipients of Synchrony Pillars Project awards for 2020. This annual program honors small business owners and healthcare providers who have supported their communities through times of change. A Synchrony pillar is someone who is a community cornerstone – a small business owner who is not only active in their community but supports it through times of change. Dr. Hyatt said he knew he needed to make changes for his community. CNBC recently televised a follow up interview on him receiving the Pillars Project Contest Award, See at: <https://www.cnbc.com/advertorial/2021/05/17/a-vet-clinics-inspiring-commitment-to-its-community.html>.



A vet clinic's inspiring commitment to its community
cnbc.com



Dr. Raven Jackson-Jewett '09 is the director of veterinary care at Chimp Haven, and is in the *National Geographic* documentary "Meet the Chimps" on Disney+. She was featured in an article in the *Montgomery Advertiser* titled, "Tuskegee grad 'Dr. J' found dream job as a veterinarian for chimps, and now inspires others."

Read more at: <https://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/story/news/2021/02/26/tuskegee-grad-raven-jackson-jewett-found-dream-job-veterinarian/4577023001/>.



Dr. Angela K. Herbert

Dr. Angela King-Herbert '84 was elected in October by her peers to the position of Vice President after having served on Board of Directors of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM) for a three-year term. Over the next four years she will be, Vice President, President-elect, President, and then past President.

TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY
The Real Truth About the COVID-19 Vaccine

Join Tuskegee University alumna, **Dr. Ian Moore '02 & '06, DVM, PhD, DACVP**, Chief, Infectious Disease Pathogenesis Section at the National Institutes of Health National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, for a Zoom to the Basics conversation on animal COVID-19 Vaccine in and how it works.

Wednesday, May 5 at 6:30 pm CDT
Join Zoom Meeting
Join: Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 950 720 1632
Passcode: 238175

Dr. Ian Moore is an Investigator in Pathogenesis, Infectious Disease Researcher and Section Chief for the Infectious Disease Pathogenesis Section (DIPS) at the NIH center at a senior research pathologist with expertise at the National Institutes of Health's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Dr. Moore is a research, collaborative and publication with a broad range of infectious and disease communication on animal health, biology, ethics, the "veterinarian-human" relationship, community, science and their impact, to name a few.

Dr. Moore's laboratory performed the pre-clinical safety and efficacy assessments for the mRNA-1273 vaccine study. These assessments made way for progression of the first emergency-use COVID-19 vaccine to more than 300,000 individuals in a clinical trial to evaluate and ultimately, emergency use authorization (EUA).

Dr. Ian Moore '02 & '06 (DVM) is the Chief of Infectious Disease Pathogenesis Section at the National Institutes of Health National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. He participated in a down to the basics conversation on what the COVID-19 Vaccine is and how it works in a Tuskegee university-wide zoom session on May 5, "The Real Truth About the COVID-19 Vaccine."

Dr. Evan Morse '68 was interviewed by the AVMA for present day Black pioneers in veterinary Medicine for Black History Month. "When AVMA asked our present day Black pioneers in veterinary medicine about their mentos during Black History Month, they noticed that one name had made multiple appearance....Dr. Evan Morse." Dr. Morse is a graduate of Tuskegee Institute and one of the first African American veterinarians in the state of Ohio. He is the founding President of Warrensville Animal Hospital. He is also co-founder of the Free Animal Clinic Team (FACT), a consortium of veterinarians providing free animal care to needy pet owners throughout Greater Cleveland.

#BlackHistoryMonth

"The veterinary profession is like a big ocean liner at a pivotal point—about to turn, redirect, and resilient. It can't turn like a small boat. It's the size of four football fields, and it's been churning along slowly. Now it is starting to make the turn, and momentum will move it more quickly. I see this change happening in society as well. We are going to have that "beloved community" that Dr. King dreamed about."

Dr. Evan Morse, President and President, Warrensville Animal Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio
2021 AVMA President's Award recipient for "Your Animal"

Dr. Morse was recently honored by the City of Warrensville Heights where his hospital has been located for 49 years! During the commemoration, the following was said....

"City of Warrensville Heights - Today June 5, 2021, is the 49th Anniversary of the opening of Warrensville Animal Clinic located at 4003 Warrensville Center Road Warrensville Heights, Ohio 44128. Dr Evan Morse has been making an impact on animals' lives since his doors opened in 1972. Dr Morse is a recipient of the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association Distinguished Service Award. Congratulations & Happy Anniversary, Dr. Morse."

veterinarian spotlight



Dr. Charles Robinson III '19 appeared on Banfield Pet Hospital's blog for Veterinarian Spotlight at <https://www.banfield.com/Bblog/bcaring>. The blog focuses on the interview with Dr. Robinson speaking about his inspiration, education, career, and the importance of diversity in veterinary practice. "Charles Robinson III, DVM, a veterinarian at Banfield Pet Hospital in Newnan, GA, knew he wanted to be a vet as far back as middle school, and his path became even more clear in high school. As a volunteer, he shadowed Dr. Leland McLaughlin, one of the standout African American veterinarians at Banfield, and got a real first-hand look at the veterinary profession."



Dr. Dominique G. Sims

Dr. Dominique Gueringer Sims '14 participated in Merck's virtual seminar on wellbeing in December. Dr. Sims focused on wellbeing and mental health, which are important topics in veterinary medicine, and the impact of wellbeing and how veterinarians can improve to create a better field for all. She currently nurtures both animals and industry colleagues as a Professional Services Veterinarian for Merck Animal Health. Dr. Sims is hopeful of developing solutions and training opportunities with her team to help increase staff retention and engagement in veterinary hospitals.

DEI Commission Advisory Group features TUCVM alumni:

Several TUCVM alumni are serving as members of the Advisory Group supporting the AVMA/AAVMC's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Commission that is co-chaired by TUCVM **Dean Dr. Ruby L. Perry '77**, and **Dr. Christine Jenkins '84**. Advisory Group members include the following: **Dr. Irving McConnell '80**, **Dr. Susan Williams '94**, and **Dr. Kimberly Cunningham Simmons '96**. Read more at: <https://www.avma.org/ja-avma-news/2021-01-15/avma-aavmc-announce-diversity-equity-inclusion-commission>.



AVMA, AAVMC announce diversity, equity, inclusion commission

[avma.org](https://www.avma.org)

Attn: ALUMNI... Received an award? Have a new position/title? Elected to a new office? Have a new mailing address? Became a mom or dad? Newly married? Etc... Please send us your news... photo, too, if you have one available.

Name: _____

Graduation Year: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Please type or print clearly...

News: _____

Send your news to:

ATTN: Anissa L. Riley
Veterinary Medical Perspective
Tuskegee University
College of Veterinary Medicine
Patterson Hall
Tuskegee, AL 36088
334-724-4509 / 727-8177 (FAX)
E-mail address: ariley@tuskegee.edu

SPOTLIGHT on cousins (Dr. Saralyn Smith-Carr '78 and Dr. April (Howard) Allen '09)... "A Legacy Continued..."

"Mother Tuskegee" and the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine's (TUCVM) outstanding record of producing legacies are putting the spotlight on these cousins, Dr. Saralyn Smith-Carr and Dr. April (Howard) Allen, in this issue of the Veterinary Medical Perspective.

Dr. Saralyn Smith-Carr is a 1978 graduate of the Tuskegee University School (now College) of Veterinary Medicine. After graduation she continued on with a Small Animal Internal Medicine, Surgery and Radiology rotating internship also at Tuskegee



Dr. Saralyn Smith-Carr

University. After her internship she practiced in her native city of Atlanta Georgia at the Atlanta Humane Society. Dr. Smith-Carr entered another Small Animal Rotating Internship followed by a Small Animal Internal Medicine residency at Washington State University in 1983. Afterwards, she earned a PhD in Veterinary Science at Washington State University in 1987 with an emphasis on clinical immunology of retroviruses. Dr. Smith-Carr returned to Tuskegee in 1987 and was on faculty in the Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery for seven years. She joined the faculty in the Department of Clinical Sciences at Auburn University in 1994, received tenure in 2000 and recently retired in 2021. Prior to retirement, Dr. Smith-Carr served as one of three faculty in Small Animal Internal Medicine at Auburn University's College of Veterinary Medicine. She became a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine in 1999. Dr. Smith-Carr has had teaching responsibilities at Atlantic Veterinary College in Prince Edward Island. She served as the external examiner for the final examination for students at University of West Indies,



Trinidad and Tobago). Dr. Smith-Carr is a loyal alumna of Tuskegee and has served as President of the Tuskegee Alumni Association from 2013-2015. Due to her work as president of the TVMAA she received the TVMAA Distinguished Service Award in 2015 and the TVMAA Distinguished Alumni Award in 2017. During the 2021 TUCVM Spring Commencement, Dr. Smith-Carr was acknowledged as one of the recipients of the TUCVM Distinguished Alumni Award and gave the "Welcome to the Alumni Association" to the Class of 2021.



Dr. April Allen

Dr. April (Howard) Allen is an Atlanta native who has always had a love of animals. There was nothing else she ever wanted to be more than a veterinarian. Choosing Tuskegee University as her school of choice was not hard, as her cousin, Dr. Saralyn Smith-Carr, an alumna of both Tuskegee University and TUSVM. After visiting her cousin during her senior year in high school, it was clear to her that she wanted apply to Tuskegee even though her track coach made arrangements for her to attend Fort Valley on a track scholarship. Dr. Allen graduated from Tuskegee University with Bachelor's in Animal Science in 2005 and Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine in 2009 (Diamond Class). She also completed a rotating Small Animal Internship in 2010 at Tuskegee (the School of Veterinary Medicine – TUSVM). She joined Banfield Pet Hospital in 2012 and is currently Chief of Staff, a position she has had for six years. Previously, Dr. Allen was a small animal veterinarian at Twilley-Greene Animal Clinic and Companion Animal Hospital, both located in Georgia.

Dr. Allen is married and they have two children and a Giant Schnauzer. 🐾



Sheree Deadrick

Sheree Deadrick (Class of 2021) was honored as a University Scholar during the 2020 Annual Scholarship Convocation on October 9 where Tuskegee University students were recognized for academic excellence in the categories of 2019-2020 Honor Rolls, Eminent Scholars, University Scholars and Honor Society Inductees. The event was held virtually in which Dean Ruby L.

Perry announced Ms. Deadrick as CVM's honoree. The 2020 Scholarship Convocation can still be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CofwOWJPuW0>. Each year, one student is designated as a University Scholar in each college. To qualify, a student must be eligible for annual Honor Roll, be the top ranking student who has completed at least 90 hours but no more than 110 hours in the college and show exemplary personal qualities as attested by the college's Dean.



Chardonay Elliott

Chardonay Elliott, (Class of 2022) was recognized in #NationwideDVM. Well on her way to being a future DVM. Read more at: <http://nationwidedvm.com/three-questions-for-chardonay-elliott-tuskegee-2022/>. Ms. Elliot served as president of TUCVM's Chapter of the Veterinary Business Management Association (VBMA). She says in article, "where I learned how broad the profession truly is, allowing veterinarians to pursue various career options and ways of attributing to the overall goal of animal healthcare."

Merck Animal Health Awards Veterinary Student Scholarships for Two Cycles to the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine



Merck Animal Health furthered its commitment to diversity and inclusion efforts amongst the veterinary community by providing each student a \$5,000 scholarship to further their education as they pursued careers in either companion or large animal veterinary care.

The 15 TUCVM recipients recognized for 2019-2020:

Maggie Celeste Beard, Derek B. Carn, Christina Darthard, William Galbreth, Maya Gifford, Kierra Chanté Graham Conlee Herrera Fry, Ainsley C. Horton, Amani Raven Lee Khadijah Martin, Daniel Moore, Sabrie Joanne Mozé Jonathan D. Owens, Jazmine Pritchett, & Carrisa Thomas

The 15 TUCVM recipients recognized for 2020-2021:

Ashley Baker, Christopher Christia, Ayanna Davis Alexandria Farris, Janine Haider, Clifton Hicks, April Johnson Kierra Johnson, Amani Lee, Courtney Moore, Larry Moore Kristin Rouse, Janae Tatum, Imani Williams, & Haley Yeepun

About Merck Animal Health

For more than a century, Merck, a leading global biopharmaceutical company, has been inventing for life, bringing forward medicines and vaccines for many of the world's most challenging diseases. Merck Animal Health, a division of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, N.J., USA, is the global animal health business unit of Merck. Through its commitment to the *Science of Healthier Animals*®, Merck Animal Health offers veterinarians, farmers, pet owners and governments one of the widest ranges of veterinary pharmaceuticals, vaccines and health management solutions and services as well as an extensive suite of digitally connected identification, traceability and monitoring products. Merck Animal Health is dedicated to preserving and improving the health, well-being and performance of animals and the people who care for them. It invests extensively in dynamic and compre-

hensive R&D resources and a modern, global supply chain. Merck Animal Health is present in more than 50 countries, while its products are available in some 150 markets. For more information, visit www.merck-animal-health.com or connect with us on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter at @MerckAH.

2021 Zoetis Veterinary Student Scholars Award recipients



TUCVM thanks Zoetis US for supporting veterinary medical education with the 2021 Zoetis Veterinary Student Scholars Award recipients. This year over 1,200 applications from second- and third-year students were received from colleges of veterinary medicine in the U.S. and Caribbean. From those applications, 315 recipients were selected for this award and cumulatively received \$630,000 in scholarships. Zoetis is

a leading global animal health company in veterinary medicine and is committed to help shape the future of this great profession. This is the twelfth year for this program, and Zoetis has donated over \$7.9 million toward scholarships.

Scholarship winners' names were displayed in Zoetis' virtual Exhibitors Booth at the 2021 SAVMA Symposium in March and all scholarship recipients were notified via email on March 16, 2021. Zoetis encourages all second- and third-year students to keep an eye out for the 2022 program to launch in early October 2021.

THE 2021 RECIPIENTS ARE:

**Natassjia Ragbeer - Jasmine Bogan
April Johnson - Kennedy Miller - Bryce Peterson**

The Senior Award Ceremony: A Celebration of Excellence Class of 2021 Senior Awards



<https://www.youtube.com/user/tuskegeeuniversity>

Academic Achievement Awards:

Naihomie N. Rodriguez, William J. Galbreth, Alana D. Alford, Kierra C. Graham, Jazmine S. Pritchett, Jessica T. Williams, Noelle D. Callahan, Johnneisha D. Motley, Austin M. Deese, Maya C. Gifford, Marina R. Janes, Tenisa M. Lucas, & Katie E. Richey

Student Leadership Awards

(SAVMA President & VP; Class Presidents):

Marlee G. Rodgers, Marina R. Janes, William J. Galbreth & Conlee Herrera Fry

Dean's Award for Outstanding Leadership:

William J. Galbreth & Conlee Herrera Fry

American College of Veterinary Radiology (ACVR) Student Award:

Maya C. Gifford

Dr. John Baker Clinical Competency Award:

Conlee Herrera Fry

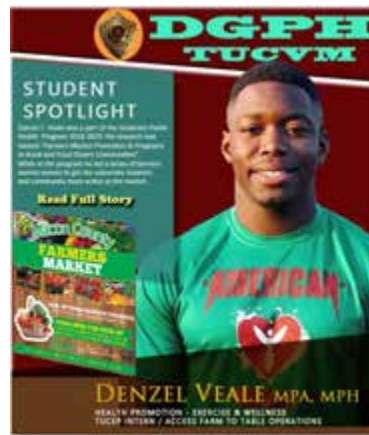
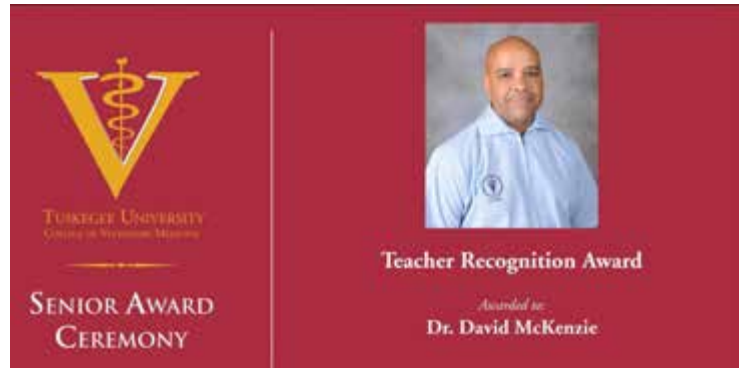
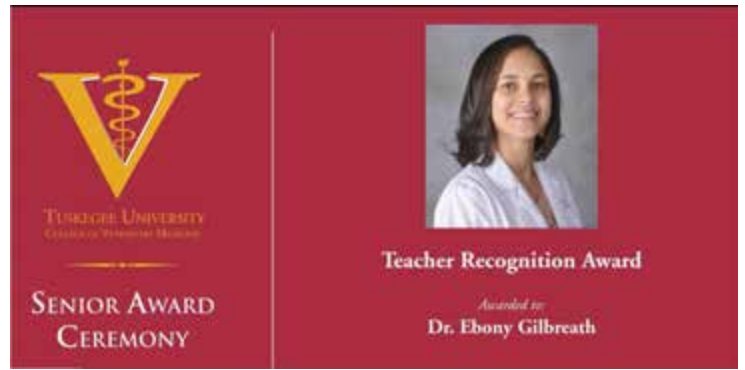
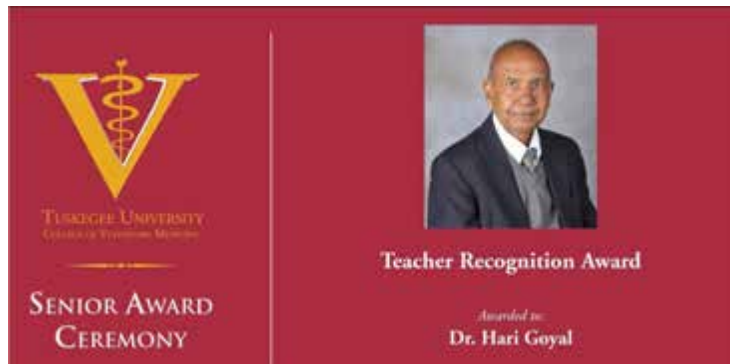
The Veterinary Spouses Legacy Award:

William J. Galbreth

****Because of the Pandemic and the award cycle the following scholarships were presented to Senior Students at the University Awards Ceremony and also acknowledged during TUCVM Awards Ceremony (typically they are awarded in the 1st to 3rd years of their veterinary program).**

The Ellis Hall Native American Student Award: *Austin Deese*
The Anne and Harrison Blair Endowed Scholarship: *Jazmine Pritchett*
The American Humane Scholarship Fund: *Willie Graham & Sandra Suarez*
The PetDesk Equity in Veterinary Medicine Scholarship: *Aijah Bradford*
American Academy of Veterinary Dermatology (AAVD): *Khadijah Martin*
Tuskegee Veterinary Medical Association: *William Galbreth*
Outstanding Student Award: *Traia Roper, Tenisa Lucas, Noel Callahan, Austin Deese, Jonathan Owens, Marlee Rodgers, Sandra Suarez, & Kandis Foster*
Award for Proficiency in Emergency & Critical Care sponsored by the Veterinary Emergency & Critical Care Society (VECCS): *Marlee Rodgers*
Shelter Medicine Award: *Nickolas McLaughlin*
AAHA Award of Proficiency in Primary Care: *Naihomie Rodriguez-Rodriguez*
Dentistry Award: *Manuela Gil*
DIVA Award/Donor (Dr. Mimi Johnson): *Sheree Deadrick-Milligan*
The American College of Veterinary Surgery Student Surgical Proficiency in Small Animal: *Jessica Williams*
Dr. Lorrie Linn Student Surgical Award: *Taylor Darwin*
American Association of Feline Practitioners: *Sandra Suarez*
ACVIM Certificate of Clinical Excellence: *Johneisha Motley & Noelle Callahan*
Best Performance in Clinical Pathology Course: *Allena Alford*
Best Clinical Rotation and Specialty Course: *Christine Albritton*
Excellence in Anatomic Pathology Award: *Shantivia Conley & Samantha Special*
Leonard and Harriet Billups Endowment Scholarship: *Dr. Gbemisola Akingbade & Dr. Thainá Lunardon*
Dr. C. T. Raby Award for Excellence in Clinical Parasitology: *Conlee Herrera Fry & Manuela Gil*
Dr. Terrence Ferguson Award for Excellence in Small Animal Parasitology: *William Galbreth & Maya Gifford*
Nestle-Purina Award for Excellence in Veterinary Diagnostic Parasitology: *Derek Carn, Samantha Special & Carrisa Thomas*
Sword of the Spirit Ministries Student Award: *Kimberly Holford*
Merck Academic Excellence Awards: *Naihomie Rodriguez, William J. Galbreth, Alana D. Alford, Kierra C. Graham, Jazmine S. Pritchett, Jessica T. Williams, Noelle D. Callahan, Johnneisha D. Motley, Austin M. Deese, Maya C. Gifford, Marina R. Janes, Tenisa M. Lucas, Katie E. Richey & Crystal L. Cain*

Faculty Awards recognized during Senior Awards Ceremony



Denzel T. Veale was a part of TUCVM's Graduate Public Health Program from 2018-2020. His research was named "Farmers Market Promotion & Programs to Rural and Food Desert Communities". While in the program he led a series of farmers market events to get the university students and community more active at the market.

Kellon Banks was a part of the TUCVM's Graduate Public Health Program from 2018-2020. During her time in the program, she served as the Secretary for the Graduate Public Health Association.





Dr. Dominique Hemmings

Dr. Dominique Hemmings, clinical instructor, Small Animal Surgery at TUCVM, had his article make the front cover of *Clinician's Brief*. It was a peer reviewed journal article for *Clinician's Brief* called "Consult the Expert" on common TPLO complications that he co-wrote with Dr. Selena Tinga of Ohio State University: <https://www.cliniciansbrief.com/article/common-tibial-plateau-leveling-osteotomy-complications>.

Dr. Hemmings was also recently quoted in the article: "Renting with Pets: The Ultimate Guide to Finding a Pet-Friendly Apartment and Living with Pets" <https://www.rentcafe.com/blog/apartmentliving/renting-with-pets/guide-renting-with-pets/> via @RentCafeCom.

Atty. Crystal James, associate professor and department head, Graduate Public Health, was appointed to the Advisory Board for the University of Houston Law Center, Health Law and Policy Institute (HLPI). The Board meets to discuss the goals and achievements of HLPI and advises HLPI on operational, academic, and policy matters. Members include legal, medical, and public health practitioners as well as business leaders. Atty. James also serves as special assistant to the president for COVID-19 Recovery.

Dr. David McKenzie received a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award for 2021-2022 to teach and do research in Kumasi, Ashanti, Ghana. Dr. McKenzie earned the Fulbright Scholar Award after an extremely competitive peer-review process by the Institute of International Education/Council for International Exchange of Scholars (IIE/CIES) and approval by both the United States and Ghanaian governments.



Dr. Ruby L. Perry

Dr. Ruby L. Perry was named one of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges' (AAVMC) 2021 Professional Excellence Award Honorees. She was the **2021 Iverson**

Bell award recipient which recognizes outstanding leadership and contributions in promoting opportunities for under-represented minorities in veterinary medical education. The professional award was presented during the AAVMC's 2021 Annual Conference and Iverson Bell Symposium, which was held virtually March 3-5, 2021.



Susie Tatum

Ms. Susie Tatum graduated on May 17, 2021 with an Associate of Science in General Education - Business from Troy University. Ms. Tatum is the administrative assistant in the Department of Pathobiology.

New CVM Leadership Positions, TUCVM Employees, and Position Changes: 2020



Samina Akhter

Mrs. Samina Akhter transitioned into the role of assistant director, Analytics and Career Placement for the Department of Graduate Public Health (DGPH) in the College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) on April 22. She previously served as system analyst and database manager working with the CVM's website. Mrs. Akhter will continue to assist in the college's website content management and webmaster duties as needed.

Mrs. Akhter completed her Master of Public Health degree in the Spring of 2019 and has assisted the department when asked to meet administrative and programmatic needs since that time. She has been a valued member of the TUCVM family for over the past 20 years which underscores her dedication to the college.



Dr. Ida Phillips

Dr. Ida Phillips joined TUCVM as an assistant professor of veterinary anatomic pathology in the Department of Pathobiology on August 3. Dr. Phillips graduated from Berry College in 2009 where she majored in animal science and minored in chemistry. She then received her DVM from TUCVM in 2013. Dr. Phillips completed a residency in veterinary anatomic pathology in 2016 and received her Ph.D. in comparative health sciences at Oregon State University Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine in July of 2020. She is also the pet parent of a super cute labradoodle puppy named Panda-Bell.



Jessica Stoneback

Ms. Jessica Stoneback joined the TUCVM family as the new administrative assistant in the Office of Veterinary Admissions and Recruitment in September. Ms. Stoneback has an extensive work and educational background in various areas.

She attended radiology school, has a degree in human resources and management, and a M.S. in business management. Ms. Stoneback has a passion and love for animals and has 11 rescue dogs.

New CVM Leadership Positions, TUCVM Employees, and Position Changes: Spring 2021



Michelle Brown

Ms. Michelle Brown is a licensed veterinary technician in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences. Ms. Brown previously worked as a licensed large animal veterinary technician from 2016-17 in the College. She received her AA and AS degrees from Enterprise State Community College in 1999 and her AAS, VT degree from Snead State Community College in 2001 where she received a Certificate of Merit

Award for the highest graduating GPA of Veterinary Technology students at Snead State.



Dr. Carla Carleton

Dr. Carla Carleton has joined the TUCVM Family as an adjunct professor in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences. She is a retired professor emeritus from Michigan State University (MSU). She and Dean Perry were colleagues at MSU prior to her retirement. Dr. Carleton and TUCVM's Dr. E. Ricardo Bridges also worked together in Theriogenology at Michigan State University. She was instrumental in co-moderating the Theriogenology course with Dr. Bridges for TUCVM's third-year students during the 2020 fall semester.

Dr. Carleton earned both her B.S. and DVM degrees from Kansas State University in 1977, a MS degree from The Ohio State University in 1983 and is a diplomate in the American College of Theriogenologists.



Dr. Louis N. Gotthelf

Dr. Louis N. Gotthelf, a 1978 veterinary alumnus, joined TUCVM on May 3 as a new faculty member in the Small Animal Clinical Sciences Department. He is an adjunct assistant professor in Small Animal Community Practice.

Dr. Louis owned Animal Hospital of Montgomery, LLC, a general veterinary practice in Montgomery, Alabama, from 1978 to 2020. Practicing in the Southeast U.S. has provided an opportunity for Dr. Gotthelf to develop a special interest in skin and ear diseases. Over the past 35 years, he has intensively studied ear diseases of dogs and cats. While

in private practice as a small animal general practitioner, Dr. Gotthelf and his staff did numerous clinical trials (including FDA drug trials) for companies that wanted new drugs and techniques tested. In 1996, working with engineers from MedRx, Inc., Dr. Gotthelf helped design the MedRx Video Vetscope, a video-based otoscope. Also, he has helped to create some veterinary dermatology products, some in-clinic diagnostic products, and developed several intra-otic laser surgery techniques used to treat ear disease.



Dr. Tomeshia Hubbard is an assistant clinical professor of Veterinary Dermatology and was appointed as section chief of Small Animal Community Practice and Shelter Medicine by Dean Perry. She serves as the president of the Tuskegee Veterinary Medical Association, co-chair of the Tuskegee University Veterinary Medical Symposium and co-chair of the Alabama Wellness Committee.

A native of Birmingham, Alabama, she received her B.S. degree in biology from Talladega College in 1998 and her DVM from TUCVM in 2002.

Dr. Hubbard is also the recipient of the \$1,000 AVMA Veterinary Educator Professional Development Grant.



Mr. Michael Jackson, Jr. joined TUCVM in March 2021 as the Motor Vehicle Operator/Freight Hauler. He previously lived in Camden, Alabama, before moving to reside in Tuskegee. Mr. Jackson has worked at Walmart and FedEx in customer service and delivery. He also served as the Assistant Manager at Jackson Flooring and was responsible for coordinating retail store operations. Mr. Jackson is excited to now be a member of the TUCVM family and looks forward to his new responsibilities.



Dr. Temesgen Samuel, a professor in the Department of Pathobiology, was appointed by Dean Perry as the new associate dean for Research and Advanced Studies within the College replacing Dr. Gopal Reddy who served in this position for eight years. Dr. Reddy is continuing to serve as a full-time professor participating in teaching, research, and service and as director of International Programs for the College.

Dr. Samuel received his DVM from Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia in 1990 and his Ph.D. from the Hannover School of Veterinary Medicine, Germany in 1998 on molecular diagnostics of the pathogen *Theileria equi*. Prior to joining the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine, he was first a Staff Scientist in Erlangen-Nuremberg University, Germany in 1999, and then a postdoctoral researcher at Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute (then Burnham Institute for Medical Research) from 2002 to 2006. His research interests are Cancer Biology and Therapeutics, and Molecular Detection Technologies. Dr. Samuel is also the director of Tuskegee Veterinary Scholars Program, in which veterinary students conduct mentored summer research at TUCVM. He is married to Dr. Noriko Aoi, also a TUCVM faculty member, and they have two daughters aged 15 and 12. His favorite pastime is playing soccer and watching Premier League.



Ms. Martha Washington is the coordinator for the Clinical Skills Program and Simulation Laboratory in the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. She is a native of Birmingham, Alabama, and a graduate of Tuskegee University where she received her M.S. in Veterinary Science in 2010. After graduation Ms. Washington joined the Gastroenterology Laboratory at TUCVM as the Laboratory Coordinator. During her tenure in the Gastroenterology Lab she received training in rodent microsurgery and authored/co-

authored many publications on the Control of Food Intake. Ms. Washington also serves as the Volunteer Clinical Apprenticeship Program (V-CAP) coordinator. V-CAP is the mentor program for undergraduate students with aspirations of becoming veterinarians. In her free time, Ms. Washington enjoys baking, crafting, and swimming.

Dr. Alehegne Wubete Yirsaw joined the TUCVM family as a research assistant in the Department of Biomedical Sciences. He received his DVM and MSc degree from Addis Ababa University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Debre



Zeit, Ethiopia. Recently he received his Ph.D. degree in Animal Biotechnology and Biomedical Sciences from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. In addition to these, Dr. Yirsaw has taken various short-term trainings.

He has long term experience in Ethiopia to include the following: as a field veterinarian and livestock and fisheries resource team leader at the district level; microbiology research officer in Amhara National Regional State Veterinary Laboratory; animal health researcher, bacteriology and food hygiene laboratory head; microbiology department head; deputy quality manager, coordinator of DVM, MSc, and Ph.D. students; and hosted for the students their laboratory experience and research at National Animal Health Diagnostic and Investigation Center (NAHDIC), Sebeta, Ethiopia.

New CVM Leadership Positions, TUCVM Employees, and Position Changes: Summer 2021



Ms. Charlotte Brightwell, a native of LaGrange, Georgia, is a licensed veterinary technician in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences. She joined the TUCVM family on June 7. Ms. Brightwell previously worked as a licensed practical nurse and then moved to working with animals as a large animal veterinary technician because she truly enjoys animals. She has an AAS degree. Ms. Brightwell has one daughter and two teenage sons.



Mrs. Patricia Campbell is the new executive assistant to the dean in the College of Veterinary Medicine, effective June 7. A native of Tuskegee, she received her bachelor's degree in legal studies from South University. Mrs. Campbell is returning home. She began working for Tuskegee University in 1993 where she served as the secretary for Vocational Education, Psychology and Counseling. She later accepted a position at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in 1996 where she worked in the sales department until 2009. Mrs. Campbell assumed the position of executive assistant and secretary to the dean for the College of Veterinary Medicine after leaving her previous position until 2010. She then went back to the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center to the position of director of Sales from 2010-2016. Mrs. Campbell also held the positions of area director of Sales for the Holiday Inn and Suites for Auburn and Opelika and area sales manager for five properties in Montgomery, Alabama, before migrating back to the University.



Dr. Mei-Jyun Ciou has joined TUCVM as a small animal intern in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences, effective June 23. Dr. Ciou graduated from National Taiwan University, Veterinary Science with a DVM degree in 2009 and then worked in a private clinic as a general practicing veterinarian from 2009 to 2013. From there, Dr. Ciou did a three-year surgical residency training at National Taiwan University Veterinary Hospital from 2013 to 2016. After finishing her residency, she worked as a surgeon at Naughty Family Animal Hospital in Shanghai, China. The Naughty Family Animal Hospital is a high-volume, high-quality veterinary hospital. Dr. Ciou has the future goal to be a board-certified veterinary surgeon.



Dr. Megan Colburn joined TUCVM as an Anatomic Pathology Intern in the Department of Pathobiology. Dr. Colburn completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology with a pre-veterinary specialty at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and then received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Colburn has an interest in zoological/wildlife species and research and hopes to one day become a board-certified Veterinary Anatomic Pathologist. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her animals (2 cats, a bearded dragon, and 2 axolotls), cooking, crafting, and exploring nature.

Dr. Erin Kilbane joined TUCVM as an intern in the Pathobiology Department. She grew up in Massachusetts, near Cape Cod. She attended the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and graduated with a degree in Animal Science.



Dr. Erin Kilbane

Dr. Kilbane then moved to Louisville, Kentucky, and began teaching middle school while pursuing a master's degree in education. While in Kentucky, she met her husband who was stationed there with the United States Army. She attended Oklahoma State University for veterinary school and graduated in 2014. Dr. Kilbane hopes to obtain a residency in Clinical Pathology following her time here at Tuskegee University. In her spare time, Dr. Kilbane enjoys spending time with her two young children, her husband and her mini schnauzer, Cooper.



Dr. Denesha King

Dr. Denesha King returned home as a small animal intern in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences, effective June 3. Dr. King, a native of Fort Valley, Georgia, graduated from The Fort Valley State University in 2011 with a bachelor's degree in Veterinary Technology. She is a 2016 Tuskegee veterinary alumna (formerly known as Dr. Denesha Oates). She was married on August 10, 2019. After graduating from Tuskegee, Dr. King was hired and mentored by Tuskegee veterinary alumnus Dr. Terrance Ferguson '98 at Critter Fixers Animal Hospital in Byron, Georgia, for five years and under the mentorship of alumnus Dr. Vernard Hodges '97 in Bonaire, Georgia, for two years. Dr. King enjoys being a pet parent to her 11-year-old, male, Labrador mix dog named Champ and her six-year-old, female, spayed domestic short hair cat named Lilly. Her future goal is to obtain a residency in veterinary cardiology.



Dr. Leanda Livesey

Dr. Leanda Livesey is an associate professor in the TUCVM Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences and was recently appointed as section chief of Large Animal Medicine and by Dean Perry. Dr. Livesey earned her veterinary degree at Edinburgh University in Scotland and has spent most of her career working in the field of equine internal medicine. She has advanced qualifications from the UK in Equine Internal Medicine and Veterinary Anesthesia, and is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. Dr. Livesey has worked in both first opinion and referral equine practices in the UK and completed a residency in Large Animal Internal Medicine at Auburn University. She has been a member of the TUCVM faculty since February 2016.



Dr. David McKenzie

Dr. David McKenzie was recently appointed as the interim department head in Large Animal Clinical Sciences by Dean Perry. Along with his responsibilities as a large animal faculty member, he is also an adjunct professor of health education in the Department of Graduate Public Health.



Originally from Kingston, Jamaica, Dr. McKenzie has lived in the United States for over 30 years and has taught at TUCVM for 25 years. He is a 1990 alumnus of the Tuskegee University School (now College) of Veterinary Medicine. One of a handful of African American board-certified large animal internal medicine specialists in the world, he enjoys the challenges of teaching new veterinary students each year. International veterinary medicine is a special passion. Dr. McKenzie has worked with colleagues in Antigua, Grenada, Canada, Jamaica, and Ghana, and has helped over 100 foreign veterinarians to earn their license to work in the United States. Additionally, he was awarded a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award to teach veterinary medicine in Ghana in 2021-22. In his spare time, Dr. McKenzie enjoys watching sports, reading, travelling and spending time with his wife, Veronica, and their two adult children, Brian and Catherine.



Dr. Luis McKie

Dr. Luis McKie has joined TUCVM as a Large Animal Intern. He is a native of Jamaica and a graduate of the University of the West Indies School of Veterinary Medicine located in St. Augustine Trinidad. He obtained his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 2019. In addition, Dr. McKie is a registered/licensed veterinarian under the Jamaica Veterinary Board. During his studies, he developed a strong passion and keen interest in Large Animal Medicine and Surgery with a particular passion for Equine and Swine Medicine and Surgery. Dr. McKie is an avid learner and a man of faith believing that through God all things are possible. He is

determined to acquire as much clinical experience upon completion of the Large Animal Internship program here at Tuskegee.



Dr. Bernadett Rozsa

Dr. Bernadett Rozsa has joined TUCVM as a Small Animal Intern in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences for the academic year of 2021-22. Dr. Rozsa is a graduate of the University of Veterinary Medicine Budapest, Hungary, Class of 2020. She began working at the Department and Clinic of Internal Medicine, Budapest, and in a private clinic named "FuzioVet." During her studies, she dedicated much of her free time to work as a volunteer in different small animal hospitals in Hungary as well as abroad. She is particularly interested in the field of internal medicine, especially gastroenterology and endocrinology. In order to broaden her perspective, she has completed several externships in Germany, Switzerland, England and the United States. Her ultimate goal is to get into an internal medicine residency position and become a board-certified small animal internist.



Dr. Steven A. Walker

Dr. Steven A. Walker is an assistant professor for Community Practice in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences, effective June 1.

Dr. Walker is a 1991 graduate of Tuskegee University's School of Agriculture (now College of Agriculture, Environment and Nutrition Sciences), and a 1996 graduate of Tuskegee University's School (now college) of Veterinary Medicine. He has been the owner of Countryside Animal Hospital of Wilson, North Carolina for the past 17 1/2 years. Dr. Walker has also given support on a federal dog fighting case in Duplin County, North Carolina.

Practicing in the south has given Dr. Walker the opportunity to treat over 43 plus different species animals. He has worked closely with the local animal control office and rescue groups and has also provided diagnostic support to the National Humane Society.

Tuskegee University 69th Annual Staff and Faculty Recognition and Awards Program. The theme was "Reach for Excellence" held November 6, 2020.

STAFF EMPLOYEE AWARDS: Debra Mitchell – Administrative/Clerical, Alexis Adams – Professional (Non-Faculty), and Tamara C. Cottrell – Service

FACULTY PERFORMANCE AWARDS for the College of Veterinary Medicine: **Dr. Ebony Gilbreath (Teaching), Dr. Pawan Puri (Research), and Atty. Crystal James (Service)**

2020 Zoetis Distinguished Veterinary Teacher Award & the Zoetis Award for Veterinary Research Excellence Recipients:



Dr. Pamela Martin:
Zoetis Distinguished Veterinary Teacher Award

Dr. Martin is head of the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences. The Zoetis Distinguished Veterinary Teacher Award is given to educators in recognition of their character and leadership qualities as well as their outstanding teaching abilities.



Dr. Temesgen Samuel:
Zoetis Award for Veterinary Research Excellence

Dr. Samuel is the associate dean for Research and Advanced Studies. The Zoetis Award for Veterinary Research Excellence recognizes researchers whose innovative studies have advanced the scientific standing of veterinary medicine.

In Loving Memory...



The Tuskegee Veterinary Medicine Family mourns the passing of the following members of our TUCVM Family...please continue to keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.



Dr. Arthur Deane

Dr. Arthur Brian Christopher Deane ('86) was lovingly known as Chris to his family and friends. They celebrated the life of Dr. Chris Deane, a gentleman, son, brother, husband, father, friend and veterinarian extraordinaire, on Saturday June 5, 2021 at Plantation United Methodist Church. In his memory, donations can be made online through the church's website, <https://www.plantationumc.org/give>.

Please select "Other" and write in "Chris Deane Memorial." Funds will be granted to the Endowment Fund of PUMC and the Humane Society of Broward County.



Dr. Johnnie Lee Garrett

Dr. Johnnie Lee Garrett ('51) at the age of 94, a resident of Hammond, Los Angeles passed away on August 30, 2020. His funeral services was held at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Hammond on September 5. His interment was at Holly Gardens Cemetery in Hammond.



Dr. Jim Heintz with his son Dr. Jonathan Heintz

Dr. James "Jim" Heintz ('73) passed away in Louisiana on June 20, 2021. Dr. Heintz graduated from the Tuskegee University School (now College) of Veterinary Medicine in 1973. He rose to become full

partner and president of Lakeview Veterinary Hospital in New Orleans, Louisiana, the practice he joined as an associate veterinarian six days after graduation. In October 2005, post Hurricane Katrina, Dr. Heintz accepted a position in Tuskegee as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Veterinary Sciences Small Animal Unit and served as Preceptorship Coordinator. Dr. Heintz stayed in Tuskegee with his wife Judy and their one-eyed duck hunting dog named Jax. He retired from TUCVM on August 31, 2016. Dr. Heintz was proud of the legacy he left with his son, Dr. Jonathan Heintz, following in his footsteps and also graduating with his DVM from "Mother Tuskegee" in 2008. Dr. Heintz was an active member of the Tuskegee Veterinary Medical Alumni Association (TVMAA) and served as its first non-minority president.



Dr. Maurice 'Moe' Isaacs

Dr. Maurice 'Moe' Isaacs ('85) passed on March 5, 2021 following a long illness. He was a faithful and dedicated member of the Anglican community where he worshipped in the parish of St. Matthew's in Nassau, Bahamas. He leaves to cherish his memory his wife Charlene, daughter Chantelle, and the extended Isaacs family.



Dr. Delorias M. Lenard

Dr. Delorias Macon Lenard ('80) wife of Willie J. Lenard, was a leader at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for over three decades and a dedicated alumna of Tuskegee University and the Tuskegee Veterinary Medical Alumni Association (TVMAA). She passed away on December 26, 2020. Her funeral service was held on January 2, 2021 in

Montgomery, Alabama, with interment in Gordon, Alabama on January 3. Dr. Lenard attended Tuskegee University as an undergraduate receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology in 1976 and furthered her education by graduating with a B.S. in Poultry and Animal Science and the DVM degree from the School of Veterinary Medicine (now College) in 1980. After more than 36 years with one employer and mentoring many employees during her tenure at USDA, Dr. Lenard retired in 2018.



Dr. Winston Lumsden

Dr. Winston "The GREAT Jamaica" Lumsden ('73) earned a D.V.M., M.Ed., M.P.H. and Ed.S. He passed on December 23, 2020, at Courtland Manor Nursing Home, in Dover, Delaware. Dr. Lumsden was an exceptional educational motivator, had an enthusiasm for knowledge and encouraged his family, friends and colleagues to strive and achieve their highest goals. He was known as "The GREAT Appalachian Super Athlete." In 1986, he earned this title by walking the great Appalachian Trail and extension thereof, which included the entire eastern length of America (Key West, Florida USA to Cap Gaspe, Quebec, Canada.)



Claude Moss, Sr.

Mr. Claude Moss, Sr. (Retired Staff) a longtime, former employee in the Department of the Pathobiology in the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine, departed this life on December 30, 2020. Mr. Moss was a faithful Necropsy Technician that joined Tuskegee University in May 1975 and retired in June 2012 after giving 37 years of dedicated service. His celebration of life and homegoing service was held on January 7, 2021 at Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church in Tuskegee, Alabama,



Dr. Gerald Ramkissoon

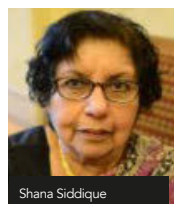
Dr. Gerald Ramkissoon ('92) passed away from this life at the age of 58 on January 11, 2021. His final arrangements were entrusted to Jeffcoat-Trant Funeral Home in Opelika, Alabama. He was remembered by the U. S. Army Medical Center of Excellence, his colleagues and coworkers as an excellent veterinarian, instructor, friend and mentor.



Dr. Lester L. Perkins

Dr. Lester L. Perkins ('68) passed away on January 5, 2021 at Prince George's Hospital Center in Maryland. Originally from Saint Ann, Jamaica, he came to the United States in the 1960s. In 1964, he earned his B.S. in Agriculture at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College. He went on to become earn his DVM the Tuskegee University School (now College) of Veterinary Medicine in 1968. During his studies in Tuskegee, Alabama, he met his future wife, Barbara

Hyacinth, heart, compassionate spirit and his depth of knowledge about the world.



Shana Siddique

Mrs. Shana Siddique (Retired Staff) passed away on June 9, 2021. She retired from TUCVM as a library assistant at the T.S. Williams Veterinary Medical Library in 2006. Mrs. Siddique was married to the late Dr. Irtaza Siddique for 59 years. Dr. Siddique was also a former faculty and administrator at Tuskegee University. She received her Master degree in Adult Education and Guidance and Counseling. Prior to coming to Tuskegee, she served as vice president of a wholesale jewelry company. Mrs. Shana Siddique devoted her time to community services and to the Asim Siddique Educational Trust which oversees the Asim Siddique Memorial Degree College in Budaun, India in which was named in honor of their beloved late son. is survived by her

IN MEMORIAM

other son Dr. Najeeb Siddique, his wife Afshan Ali, grandson Aden as well as her large, loving family of siblings, nieces, and nephews. She will be remembered fondly by her friends and community for her kindness, compassionate spirit, and commitment to social impact.



Charlotte D. Spires ('82) DVM, MPH, DACVPM, CAPT USPHS (ret.), was an outstanding veterinarian, veterinary epidemiologist, life-long learner, and dedicated TUCVM alum Class of 1982. She passed on May 24, 2021. Dr. Spire's celebration of her life services were held at Encounter Life Church on June 5 with her final resting place at St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery South Hill, Virginia, where a brief graveside was held on June 6. In her memory, The CAPT (ret.) Charlotte Dortch Spires, DVM, MPH, DACVPM Endowed Scholarship, has been established at Tuskegee University to support veterinary medical students in the College of Veterinary Medicine pursuing non-clinical veterinary careers.

Dr. Frederik R. Tellekamp ('74) passed away January 4, 2021. He was predeceased by his son, Albert Ashton Tellekamp. He is survived by his wife, Madeleine; a son, James Judson; a daughter, Logan Tyler; a granddaughter, Elisabeth Grace; a grandson, Kjell Ryan; a daughter-in-law, Stacey Cohen, and many devoted friends. Dr. Tellekamp worked for the Alexandria Animal Hospital in Virginia a year before moving to Tampa. He joined the veterinary practice of Kindness Animal Hospital where he cared for animals for 45 years. He also cared for animals needing emergency treatment at Central Animal Hospital. He offered his hospital to the Humane Society for clinics on Sundays. For everyone who knew Dr. Tellekamp, he was a friend, a mentor, and an example of how to treat every living thing with dignity.



Dr. Robert Thwala ('80) departed this life on January 21, 2021. He was a former Director of Veterinary Services and OIE Delegate for Eswatini (formerly Swaziland). Dr. Thwala served as President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa, at the OIE Regional Seminar on Good Governance of Veterinary Services, Gaborone, Botswana. Dr. Thwala was the OIE Delegate from 1990 to 2009; at the time he was also the Director of Veterinary Services. During his time with the OIE family, he has contributed significantly and represented his country and the region very well. He was President of the OIE Regional Commission for Africa from 2007 – 2009, where he represented the 54 countries of the continent of Africa at the OIE Commission and other International Organizations with dignity and integrity. He was also a member of the OIE Working Group for Animal Production Food Safety.



Dr. Ulysses Whitworth ('76) departed this life on June 6, 2021 at the age of 74. His funeral service was held June 17, 2021 at Lea Funeral Home Chapel in Raleigh, North Carolina. The Interment was June 18, 2021 at Eternal Hills Memorial Park in Forest City, North Carolina. He is survived by his loving wife, Dr. Ellen Naumann Whitworth; children Njeri Whitworth, Haile Whitworth, Shaina Whitworth, Elizabeth Whitworth, and John Owusu, of Durham; sister, Eleanor Whitworth of Spindale, NC; and two grandchildren.



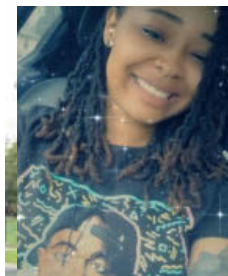
Dr. Edward D. Willis ('66) a long-time Tuskegee University supporter, a veterinary pioneer and long-time resident of Montgomery, Alabama for more than 50 year, departed this life on March 6, 2021 in Montgomery. He was also recognized as the first African American Licensed Veterinarian to practice and own a veterinary hospital in Montgomery. A Family Greeting in memory of Dr. Willis was held on March 12 at Willis Animal Clinic in Montgomery and his celebration of life service (a private memorial service) was held on March 13 at

Ross-Clayton Funeral Home in Montgomery. Dr. Willis received his undergraduate degree from Tuskegee Institute in 1961, and his DVM from the Tuskegee University School (now College) of Veterinary Medicine in 1966. He was commissioned as a Captain in the U.S. Army His military service included a Tour of Duty in Vietnam with the Veterinary Corps; assignment to the U.S. Army Reserve, and the U.S. Air Force Reserve; and an Active Duty post at the Pentagon during Operation Desert Storm. He retired at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 2000 having been recognized with several distinguished military service awards and medals. Dr. Willis also served as an interim faculty for his Alma Mater.



Dr. Anthony Yancey ('76) departed this life on July 1, 2021. He was a very accomplished man. Dr. Yancey had earned several degrees to include a BS, DVM, MS, Ph.D. and MD. He was also a Veteran. He was a graduate from Tuskegee University School (now College) of Veterinary Medicine in 1976. He was employed with the USDA as a supervisory veterinarian.

Dr. Yancey loved jazz music, jazz cruises and performed the saxophone. He collected antique radios as a hobby. He is survived by his wife, Martha; his sons, Josha and Justin; and his sisters, Shirley Anderson and Andre Yancey. Anthony was born to Andrew and Beatrice Yancey of Richmond, Va. The Funeral Mass was held on July 15, 2021, at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Star City, W. Virginia.



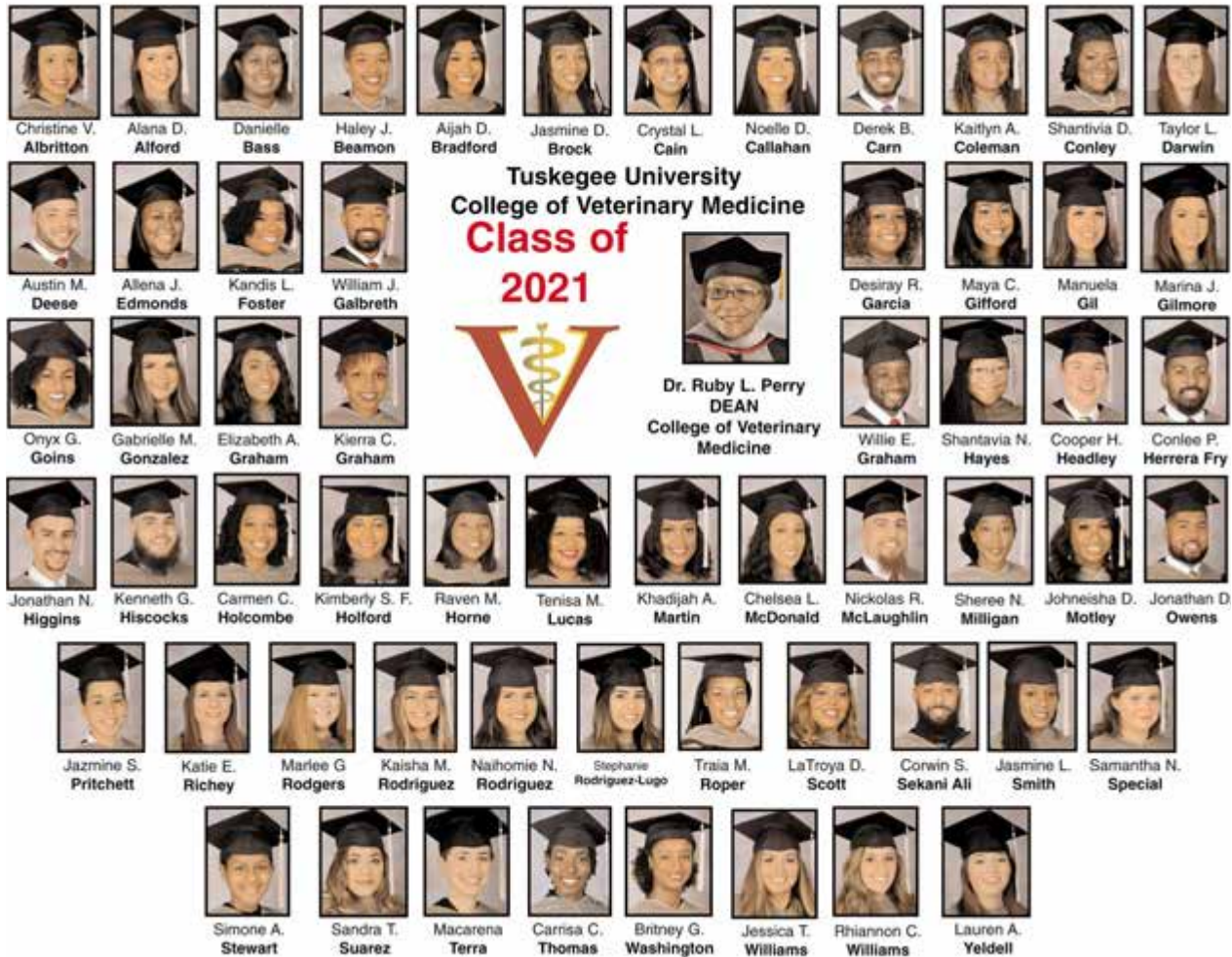
Ms. Keonna Hall (TUCVM Student) a third-year TUCVM veterinary medical student, passed away September 2020. She was a lovely daughter, sister, niece, and friend to all those who knew and loved her. The TUCVM Office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the Director of Student Success and Retention offered Grief Support Listening Sessions and additional support services to the TUCVM students, faculty and staff during the difficult time of her passing. In celebration of Keonna's life, a candlelight vigil with balloon release was held on September 27 in the parking lot of the veterinary medical complex.

Our TUCVM Family is a circle of love, not broken by a loss, but made stronger by the precious memories that will be with us always!

The year of 2020 and now part of 2021 have been very difficult with the pandemic and other tragedies for the TUCVM Family. Several TUCVM faculty, staff, students and alumni have encountered the loss of other family members. Our thoughts and prayers as a college are being shared with all those grieving a loss for strength during these difficult times. Be encouraged!



Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine Spring Commencement and Oath Ceremony – May 1, 2021



Commencement Speaker and alumna Dr. Bonnie Barclay (center) accepting Distinguished Alumni Award from Tuskegee University President Dr. Charlotte P. Morris and Dean Ruby L. Perry.

Alumna Dr. Saralyn Smith-Carr (center) accepting Distinguished Alumni Award from President Dr. Morris and Dean Perry.

Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine host May 1 Spring Commencement and Oath Ceremony to Recognize 59 New Graduates



The Tuskegee University's College of Veterinary Medicine recognized the Class of 2021 graduates during both an in-person and virtual graduation and oath ceremony on Saturday, May 1. The live, in-person commencement was at 10:00 a.m. CST at the Tuskegee University Chapel and the virtual ceremony followed at 1 p.m. CST. The spring commencement recognized the college's 59 Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree candidates with the administration of the Veterinarian's Oath at the end of the ceremony.

Dr. Ruby L. Perry, dean of the veterinary medicine college, presided over the program. Dr. Roslyn Casimir, associate dean for academic affairs, and Dr. Fredrick Tippet, associate dean for student affairs, assisted during the live and virtual ceremonies.

Dr. Bonnie Barclay, Class of 1984 veterinary alumna, was this year's commencement speaker. Dr. Barclay has been a veterinarian with Boehringer Ingelheim since 2009 and offers 25 plus years of comprehensive experience in Animal Health. Currently, she serves as a Professional Services Veterinarian covering the territories/districts of North, Central and South Central Alabama; Atlanta and Columbus, Georgia; and Central and South Central Tennessee.

The public was able to view the in-person ceremony, which was live streamed at 10 a.m., and the virtual ceremony at 1 p.m. by visiting the Tuskegee University YouTube link: www.youtube.com/tuskegeeuiversity.

"Although the Class of 2021 had to finish their curriculum virtually, the opportunity to allow the class the option to have an in-person ceremony was a welcomed change from the University considering the massive changes required for the past year and a half due to the coronavirus pandemic. Some of our students were not able to attend an in-person graduation, so the virtual option allowed all of our students to be honored for accomplishing this major milestone," Dean Perry said.

"It is truly one of the highest honors as dean of the college to preside over our graduation ceremony. I am sure that family, friends, alumni, the university community, and other supporters enjoyed the celebration regardless of the in-person or virtual platform. All were welcomed to join me via the University's YouTube link, as we celebrated the major accomplishments of the Class of 2021 as they celebrated their big day as new doctors in the veterinary profession."

The in-person graduation ceremony at the Tuskegee University Chapel as well as the virtual ceremony still had many of the elements of the traditional graduation and featured presentations of the graduation speaker, the class challenge and class reflections/vision for the future, as well as the administration of the Veterinarian's Oath.

Commencement speaker Dr. Barclay gave the graduates words of wisdom for entering the veterinary profession. She said, "Be willing to out-work everybody and don't forget to give back.... remember Tuskegee!" The speaker's challenge was accepted by the class co-presidents, William Galbreth and Conlee Herrera Fry.

Only a limited number of family and friends were allowed to attend due to safety measures that were followed to allow for social distancing and to follow the university guidelines which adhered to the CDC COVID policies to keep everyone safe.

Yearly, Dean Perry shares a personal message to the graduates. In Dr. Perry's closing message to the Class of 2021 graduates she stated, "The Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine (TUCVM) family, now the home of your alma mater, salutes you on your successful journey through the professional program to achieve the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree, which is the culmination

of your achievement. Although the COVID-19 pandemic required many of your classes to be held virtually and to complete your journey here differently, the Class of 2021 – you are commended for the resilience and finishing STRONG!"

In addition to Dr. Barclay's inspiring message to the graduates, Dean Perry, honored five of the college's alumni with the Distinguished Alumni Award. Only two recipients were in person but all were recognized in the virtual graduation presentation. The award recipients included: Commencement speaker Dr. Bonnie Barclay '84, Dr. David E. Brooks '78, Dr. Tiffini Brabham '93, Dr. Ronald D. Hodges '87, and Dr. Saralyn Smith-Carr '78.

The college's Class of 2021 represented the 72nd class to receive DVM degrees from Tuskegee University. With this graduation, the College of Veterinary Medicine has awarded 2,909 veterinary medicine degrees.

Due to CDC COVID-19 guidelines, a reception did not follow the ceremony; however, a repast with boxed meals was held in the University's Chapel foyer following the live ceremony.

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2021

Albritton, Christine V.
Alford, Alana D.
Bass, Danielle M.
Beamon, Haley J.
Bradford, Aijah J.
Brock, Jasmine D.
Cain, Crystal L.
Callahan, Noelle D.
Carr, Derek B.
Coleman, Kaitlyn A.
Conley, Shantavia D.
Darwin, Taylor L.
Deese, Austin M.
Edmonds, Allena J.
Foster, Kandis L.
Galbreth, William J.
Garcia, Desiray R.
Gifford, Maya C.
Gil, Manuela
Gilmore, Marina J.
Goins, Onyx G.
Gonzalez, Gabrielle M.
Graham, Elizabeth A.
Graham, Kierra C.
Graham, Willie E.
Hayes, Shantavia N.
Headley, Cooper
Herrera Fry, Conlee P.
Higgins, Jonathan N.
Hiscocks, Kenneth G.

Holcombe, Carmen C.
Holford, Kimberly S.
Horne, Raven M.
Lucas, Tenisa M.
Martin, Khadijah A.
McDonald, Chelsea L.
McLaughlin, Nickolas R.
Milligan, Sheree D.
Motley, Johnneisha D.
Owens, Jonathan D.
Pritchett, Jazmine S.
Richey, Katie E.
Rodgers, Marlee G.
Rodriguez, Kaisha M.
Rodriguez Lugo, Stephanie
Rodriguez-Rodriguez, Naihomie N.
Roper, Traia M.
Scott, LaTroya D.
Sekani Ali, Corwin S.
Smith, Jasmine L.
Special, Samantha N.
Stewart, Simone A.
Suarez, Sandra T.
Terra, Macarena
Thomas, Carrisa C.
Washington, Britney G.
Williams, Jessica T.
Williams, Rhiannon C.
Yeldell, Lauren A.



In addition, the College of Veterinary Medicine's masters and doctoral programs awarded graduates their degrees and recognized both Classes of 2020 and 2021 recipients at Tuskegee University's 136th Spring Commencement Exercises on Sunday, May 30 at Cramton Bowl in Montgomery, Alabama. It was noted as the university's largest Spring Commencement ceremony. These graduates included: Interdisciplinary Pathobiology Ph.D. recipients **Dr. Frank Abrahamsen, Dr. Zainab Alwan, and Dr. Kiara Elyse Cousin**; Integrative Biosciences Ph.D. recipients **Dr. Md. Shakir Uddin Ahmed, Dr. Anusha Angajala, Dr. Papias Hongera Binagwa, Dr. Kimberly Natasha Carr, Dr. Khaldia Ayoub Fadlalla, Dr. Osagie Idehen and Dr. Foaziatu Bukari**; Master of Public Health recipients **Kellon Synclaire Banks, Ashanti-Ali P. Davis, Denzel Traimaine Veale and Ronald D. Peaster**; and Master of Veterinary Science recipients **Bilal Alkaraghulli, Maisha Marie Sood, and Maria-Denna Darby**.

Families and friends gathered to celebrate over 800 graduates from the classes of 2020 and 2021 at Cramton Bowl. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, last year's in-person commencement ceremony for the university was canceled also so the Class of 2020 graduates were invited to participate as well in the university's commencement ceremony. Keynote speaker Bakari Sellers, CNN Political Analyst and former Representative from South Carolina, delivered the commencement address on May 30.



The Role of Telemedicine During the COVID-19 Pandemic and its Impact in the Future

Virtual 55th Annual Veterinary Symposium
MARCH 17-19, 2021

Honoring The Reunion Classes: 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971
 (50th year - Golden Class), 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996
 (25th year - Silver Class), 2001, 2006, 2011, and 2016

Symposium website: www.tuskegee.edu/2021VetMedSymposium

Honoring the Reunion Classes:

1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971 (50th year - golden class), 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996 (25th year - silver class), 2001, 2006, 2011, and 2016.



On March 17-19, 2021, TUCVM alumni, students, faculty, staff and pre-veterinary students gathered in a virtual platform for the 55th Annual Veterinary Medical Symposium. This year's theme, "The Role of Telemedicine During the COVID-19 Pandemic and its Impact in the Future," was very relevant to the current climate all have been experiencing for the past year and half.

Last year's symposium was postponed due to the pandemic, and although the college had hoped the circumstances would have allowed for an in-person gathering this year, the decision was made to still have a symposium just a little different. Unfortunately, still due to the COVID crisis, TUCVM could not allow participation in person for this year's symposium. So to continue to practice safety and make responsible decisions, The college instead proceeded with the 55th Symposium in a virtual format as was done with the successful virtual 75th Diamond Anniversary Celebration back in October 2020. However, participants were able to fully engage in various sessions for continuing education credits from either pre-recorded or real-time presentations. The symposium was also RACE approved.

A combination of a professional conference and alumni reunion was still experienced virtually by participants. The symposium featured a number of large and small animal research presentations, uniform services, public health, lab animal medicine, human-animal bond and pathology topics as well as presentations from the perspectives of interns. There was still networking opportunities and chances to interact with symposium sponsors and exhibitors. This year's format even included sessions for pre-veterinary students in which the TUCVM's Office of Admissions and Recruitment organized.

The keynote speakers both gave valuable presentation. Dr. Ian Moore, an alumnus from the Class of 2006, was the Opening Session speaker and his presentation, "The Pre, Intra, and Post-Pandemic World: The Lessons Learned and the Expanding Roles for Veterinary Medicine in Human Health" was befitting with this year's symposium theme. Dr. Debra Moore, an alumna from the Class of 1987, was the T.S. Williams Speaker and her presentation on dolphins and other marine animals exemplified the legacy of Dr. T. S. Williams, Dean Emeritus of the College.

The culmination event, the annual alumni banquet, was also celebrated in a virtual format in which each of the reunion classes were recognized as their class video presentation was shared for all to view, enjoy and communicate in the chat.

The reunion classes honored this year for the 55th Annual Veterinary Medical Symposium included: 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971 (50th year - golden class), 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996 (25th year - silver class), 2001, 2006, 2011, & 2016.

Also during the virtual alumni banquet, the Tuskegee Veterinary Medical Alumni Association (TVMAA) recognized its recipients of the annual TVMAA awards. These included the following: TVMAA Distinguished Alumni Award (recipient Dr. Bernardino Ortiz Santiago), TVMAA Distinguished Service Award (recipient Dr. Joseph Kendrick), TVMAA Distinguished Service Award (recipient Dr. Brianna Skinner), TVMAA Honorary Alumni Award (recipient Dr. Daphne Mobley) and TVMAA President's Award (recipient TUCVM 75th Anniversary Committee).

TUCVM is looking forward to holding the 56th Annual Veterinary Symposium in March 2022 hopefully back in the normal social and traditional gathering setting.

Dr. Bernardino Ortiz Santiago
Distinguished Alumni

Recipient of the TVMAA Distinguished Alumni Award for his outstanding leadership and service to the profession and the community.

Dr. Joseph Kendrick
Distinguished Service

Recipient of the TVMAA Distinguished Service Award for his exceptional service to the profession and the community.

Dr. Brianna L. Skinner
Distinguished Service

Recipient of the TVMAA Distinguished Service Award for her exceptional service to the profession and the community.

Dr. Daphne Mobley
Honorary Alumni

Recipient of the TVMAA Honorary Alumni Award for her exceptional service to the profession and the community.

75th Diamond Anniversary Virtual Celebration
TUCVM Symposium Committee

President's Award

Recipient of the TVMAA President's Award for their exceptional service to the profession and the community.

Tuskegee University's Virtual One Health Symposium focuses on health security in the time of COVID-19

The Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine's Department of Graduate Public Health hosted this year's one health symposium as a virtual event. "One Health Perspectives in Defining Health Security in the Time of COVID-19" was the theme for the 21st Annual One Health Symposium on October 22. This year's theme was timely and underscores the commitment the college and university have to engaging the university members, the general public, biomedical researchers, the health community and the university's partners in navigating the new normal as all work together to formulate best practices and operations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The One Health Symposium is an annual event that is designed to bring together veterinarians, human health researchers, public health practitioners, and environmental health scientists for professional development and to share their research in related areas providing a forum for advancing biomedical research and to heighten awareness of global health disparities.

In the past, the health symposium was held in conjunction with the annual Phi Zeta Research Day which follows the mission of the Phi Zeta Veterinary Honor Society by recognizing and promoting scholarship and research pertaining to the welfare and diseases of animals. The research day has allowed the students to present their research as well via a competition but due to the coronavirus pandemic, the research day event was not held this year for the students. However, students did still participate in a virtual student panel focused on the topic, "Impact of COVID-19 on Operations at HBCUs." Students presented from the aspects of working on coronavirus research as well as being impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The 2020 One Health Symposium brought together several renowned professionals, panelists and keynote speakers to engage the scientific community, researchers, educators and students in a discussion to address a critical public health



crisis in a time of COVID-19. Under the leadership of Atty. Crystal James, who serves as director/department head for the college's Graduate Public Health Program, and co-chair Dr. Melvena Wilson, who serves as an assistant professor in the Department of Graduate Public Health, I commend the symposium committee for the extensive effort put forth in formulating a virtual event that captures how we can make a difference through expanding our knowledge of biomedical research despite the tremendous challenges of COVID-19," said Dr. Ruby L. Perry, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine.

This year's keynote and invited guest speakers included:

Nadine Gayle, communications director to Assembly Woman Walker 55th District of New York; Dr. Tanya Tatum, director of Student Health Services at Florida A&M University; Dr. Joy St. John, director of Caribbean Public Health Agency – this year's Dr. Kenneth Olden Lecturer; and Dr. Randy Albrecht, director, Emerging Pathogens in the Global Emerging Pathogens Institute/director, Biosafety Program at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

"The One Health Committee and the Department of Graduate Public Health are so grateful for the leadership of President McNair and Dean Perry as the university has met the new challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic to assure our students are receiving the academic training necessary to excel and the university community is practicing all the safety precautions possible," Atty. James said.

"The 21st Annual One Health Symposium, although held in a different format this year, was extremely timely and our panel of leaders and presenters, community members and partners, fellow colleagues and students' participations allowed us to deliver a thoughtful and engaging program. Our goal was to share trusted scientific information and be a think tank for advocacy and mitigation as we forge our path ahead to meet the new challenges with success in this time of COVID-19 and future global health disparities," James concluded. 🦋



Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine treats social media famous patient “Brisket the Bull”

The veterinary medical students in the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine had the opportunity to assist veterinary large animal clinicians and surgeons in the medical treatment of a social media famous patient named “Brisket The Bull.” Brisket was given a clean bill of health on December 1 from the veterinary medical teaching hospital and then released to his owner.

Brisket is an eight-year old Brahman bull who is owned by Judy Presley, formerly from Tennessee but now a resident of Luverne, Alabama. Ms. Presley bought Brisket at a sale barn when he was just two years old. Over the years, she has raised and trained him to accept a halter, saddle and to be ridden. Brisket has a very gentle temperament and is nationally recognized for his owner's ability to trail ride and show jump with him. Brisket even has his own Facebook page.

“Brisket had a two-month history of an abscessed prepuce in which the abscess was treated by a private practice before being brought to the veterinary hospital for a sheath resection, which was a surgery successfully performed by Dr. Jeannine

Bellamy, veterinary medical teaching hospital director, and me providing the anesthesia,” said Dr. David McKenzie, interim department head/professor and large animal clinician in the Large Animal Clinical Sciences Department.

The students assisted in the medical aftercare in which Brisket’s healing progressed well and led to a recent successful discharge. Owner Ms. Presley was very pleased with the services of the college in treating Brisket and offered to have the students take pictures with him and be shared on Brisket’s social media pages.

“We are proud of our students and thankful to our large animal veterinary medical clinicians for providing quality healthcare for our bovine clients. Being exceptional is what we are striving to be here at Tuskegee and have our clients be pleased with the veterinary services provided to our patients while preparing our students to be career-ready veterinarians upon completing the veterinary curriculum,” said Dr. Ruby L. Perry, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. 🐾

NIH Awards Four-Year, \$1.48 Million Grant to Tuskegee University College of Veterinary for Breast Cancer Research

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded \$1.48 Million for four years to the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine for breast cancer research. Deepa Bedi, MD, Ph.D., is an associate professor in the college's Department of Biomedical Sciences and is serving as the principal investigator for the grant entitled, "Evaluation of HSPD1 (Heat Shock Protein, 60) as a theranostic target for breast cancer." Dr. Bedi during her research will evaluate the role of heat shock protein 60 in the progression of breast cancer.

"I aim to use this protein as a marker of TNBC progression as well as a target to deliver anti-cancer drugs to this highly aggressive and metastatic cancer. This grant will provide the necessary resources to fulfil this hypothesis and be able to contribute to the knowledge and cure of TNBC, particularly in African-American women," Dr. Bedi said.

"We are proud of the contributions that Dr. Bedi will make to biomedical research as she translates the discoveries and observations into therapies in her cancer laboratory in the college. The data and information gained from this newly funded research study will heighten awareness and enhance the Cancer Research program here at Tuskegee University," said Dr. Ruby L. Perry, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine.

"We are also appreciative to Dr. Shaik Jeelani, vice president for research and dean of the graduate school, for his support of our faculty and their pursuits of research studies that are relevant to animal and human health. Biomedical research, in particular breast cancer, is one of our signature research programs here at the University," Perry said.

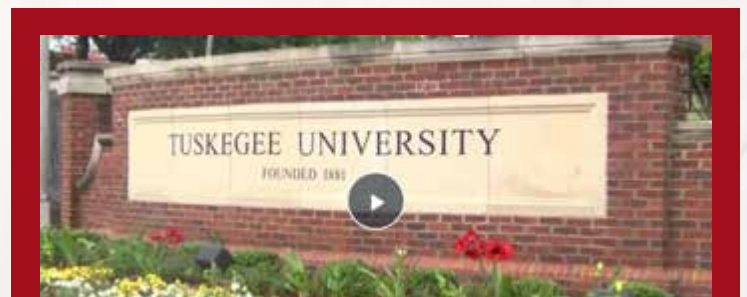
Dr. Bedi's work in cancer research is not new and was previously funded by NIH in a grant in 2016 in the amount of \$441,000 for three years. She also coordinates many efforts across campus with Dr. Clayton Yates, who is the director of the Center for Cancer Research at Tuskegee University.

Previously, using phage display technology in Dr. Bedi's cancer biomarker discovery and therapeutics lab, she had discovered heat shock protein 60 to be highly expressed and have a higher expression in African Americans with breast cancer as compared to Caucasian Americans.

According to the U.S. National Library of Medicine, breast cancer is one of the most frequently diagnosed cancers and the leading global cause of cancer death in women, accounting for 23% of cancer diagnoses (1.38 million women) and 14%



of cancer deaths (458,000 women) each year. Triple-negative breast cancers (TNBC) occur in 10-15% of patients, yet this disease subtype accounts for almost half of all breast cancer deaths and represent as highly aggressive and metastatic phenotype, specifically among African-American women. 🦋



Dr. Bedi was featured on the news segment for WVTM 13 News at 10 pm for Oct. 4, 2020 with WVTM's reporter, Jeffrey Eliasoph. Interview Link <https://www.wvtm13.com/article/tuskegee-university-receives-grant-to-assist-in-breast-cancer-research/34274573>

TUCVM SUMMER PROGRAMS

TUCVM Holds Virtual VET-STEP I and II



Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine
Veterinary Science Training, Education and Preparation Institute

VET STEP 2021

VET STEP is a residential program designed to introduce underrepresented minority high school students to exciting careers in veterinary medicine. Students will spend a week on the campus of Tuskegee University learning about what it takes to be a Veterinarian while attending stimulating academic classes.

VET STEP I Program

June 7-11, 2021
Students entering 9th or 10th grade with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above

VET STEP II Program

June 21-25, 2021
Students entering 11th or 12th grade with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above

For questions on VET STEP enrollment please contact:

James Perry
Tuskegee University
Veterinary Medicine Recruitment
(334) 727-8456
Email: jperry@tuskegee.edu



TUSKEGEE
UNIVERSITY



The Veterinary Science Training, Education, and Preparation Institutes (VET STEP I and II) were canceled last year due to the coronavirus pandemic. However, for the summer of 2021, TUCVM's VET STEP summer program was held but virtually. The VET STEP I Program ran June 7-11, 2021 for entering 9th and 10th grade students. The VET STEP II Program ran June 21-25, 2021 for entering 11th and 12th grade students. Both programs required all participants to have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above.



VET STEP I student Tyler Little performs sheep brain and heart dissection at home as part of the virtual program for the summer.

Pre-pandemic, the VET STEP was a summer residential program designed to introduce or give exposure to underrepresented minority high school students to the exciting careers in the veterinary medicine profession. However, the week program for each institute was virtual this summer so no participants stayed on campus; however, the virtual activities were still designed with the same objective. Mr. James Perry, director for the Office of Veterinary Admissions and Recruitment, oversaw the program and had a VET STEP program coordinator running the daily activities with the help of camp counselors who were TUCVM students. For summer 2021, the following individuals served as the Program Coordinator and Camp Counselors: the VET STEP Program Coordinator was Ms. Akia Allen and the Camp Counselors included Janelle Benton (Class of 2024), Cierra Kenerly (Class of 2024), Jessica Smith (Class of 2024) and Derrel Benjamin Wilright (Class of 2025).

For summer 2021, 28 students from 11 states participated in VET STEP I and 48 students from 18 states participated in VET STEP II.

Besides attending various virtual lectures, students also worked on a group research project in which they were given the skills of creating PowerPoint presentations. The VET-STEP Program and Tuskegee University continues to help mold students for careers in veterinary medicine. VET-STEP has a proven track record of introducing minority high school students to the exciting careers in veterinary medicine.

"At the end of both VET STEP I and II sessions, both groups did a remarkable job of working through their virtual activities and developing their research topics that they presented for the Closing Ceremony. Our Program Coordinator Ms. Akia Allen and the TUCVM students who served as the camp counselors worked diligently with each of the groups to make sure the program was a success and that the research projects were informative and inclusive of each participant," Mr. James Perry said.

"Under the support of Dean Ruby Perry, I thank all participants for helping to make VET STEP 2021 a success. As a thank you token, we were excited to present to each VET STEP participant with TUCVM paraphernalia, a certificate of participation, and a check of \$300 funded by the Centers of Excellence grant," Mr. Perry concluded.

More information can be viewed at: <https://www.tuskegee.edu/programs-courses/colleges-schools/cvm/cvm-vet-step>.

Summer Enrichment and Reinforcement Program (SERP) 2021

Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine's Summer Enrichment and Reinforcement Program (SERP) went virtual in 2020 with thirty-five student participants due to the COVID-19 pandemic and continued on virtually for summer 2021 also. However, for the summer of 2021, SERP had an impressive 42 participants consisting of 25 pre-veterinary students and 17 students in the TUCVM first-year class (Class of 2025). Also, the following four students from the second-year class (Class of 2024) worked as teacher assistants during the 2021 SERP program: Alexis Meadows, Cydney Crook, Johnathan Floyd, and Latoya Bryant.



Virtual Summer Enrichment and Reinforcement Program
THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2021 - THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2021



The program is under the Office of Academic Affairs where Dr. Roslyn Casimir is the associate dean and Kheri Flowers is the SERP Program Coordinator. Ms. Flowers is the director of Student Success and Retention.

"We have enhanced the SERP curriculum by increasing the number of contact hours in critical veterinary first year courses (i.e. three weeks of Gross Anatomy, Microanatomy and Physiology) in order to efficiently equip the participants with the tools needed to meet the demands of this rigorous professional program," Ms. Flowers said.



SERP 2021 participants enjoyed a virtual tour to the Birmingham Zoo.

The 2021 Virtual SERP Program was held June 1-July 2 with the closing ceremony on July 2 at 10 a.m. (CST). TUCVM's alumnus and one of the stars of the television show, The Vet Life, Dr. Diarra Blue '09, gave the keynote presentation. Also, as a special addition, the following fourth-year students were selected to serve on a vet student life panel to lead a discussion and share their perspective of the "Vet Student Life" on July 1: John Delgado, Kaitlynn Pfeiffer, Sage Shaddox and Tysheona Cook.

During the five-week program, students participated in various sessions and activities that provided an introduction to the highly anticipated veterinary medical

See **SERP** continued on page 28

curriculum along with some health and wellness activities featured sessions taught by Catrina Hoffman, FCS County Extension Agent for Macon and Montgomery counties in Alabama. Ms. Hoffman focused on preparing quick healthy meals and snacks and healthy eating on a budget. TUCVM also had the following alumni who participated in the program this summer making virtual presentations: Dr. Tiffini Brabham '93, Dr. William Draper '91, Dr. Francoise Tyler Draper '91, and Dr. William, T. Watson '65. Participants also had virtual tours to the Atlanta Zoo and Birmingham Zoo.

SERP is a longstanding enhancement program that has been preparing students for over three decades. It was remodeled in summer 2018 to have exciting enhancements that extended the didactic aspect of the course work and increased opportunities to reinforce veterinary theory with application. Critical features maintained from the original model are evaluations and the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge from actual veterinary medicine instructors.

SERP's goals for summer 2021 were achieved through the following three-phase structured program:

- Phase I – Week 1: Participants learn strategies developed for note-taking, test-taking, critical thinking, time management, teaching and learning styles-practical metacognitive learning styles.
- Phase II – Week 2-4: The didactic aspect of the program allows participants to receive a view of the veterinary curriculum. Participants are assessed with examinations to determine their level of knowledge and proficiency.
- Phase III – Week 5: Participants engage in the analysis and application of a condensed clinical experience through case study presentations.

The administration of pre and post evaluations were conducted during the didactic phase of SERP. Instructors utilized this data to identify specific areas of development for each participant and recommended supplemental resources. SERP empowers participants with the knowledge of learning styles, metacognitive strategies, and post evaluation assessments to effectively customize an Academic Success Plan. SERP's summer faculty also focused on the requirements for applying to a DVM program and conducted mock interviews for participants interested in a veterinary program. More information can be viewed at: <https://www.tuskegee.edu/programs-courses/colleges-schools/cvm/cvm-serp-program>.

Tuskegee University Summer Veterinary Research Scholars Program (TVSP) 2021



TUCVM provides increased opportunities to all veterinary students to participate in high quality research through both internal and external programs. Each summer Tuskegee University Veterinary Research Scholars Program (TVSP) offers opportunities to preclinical veterinary students to be involved in mentored research for 10-12 weeks from May through July.

This summer, TUCVM had a 10 week program with 10 students who participated representing six students from the Class of 2024 (second year) and four students from the Class of 2023 (third year).

TVSP is a structured Summer Research Program to first, second and possibly third year veterinary students. The purpose of this program is to introduce students to high quality biomedical and clinical research to help them explore research as a possible career opportunity for them following their graduation from the veterinary program, or for them to remain engaged in research in their chosen career tracks. TVSP comprises three sub-programs each funded independently by the Human Health Services Centers of Excellence grant (DHHS/HRSA COE), the National Institutes of Health T35 grant (NIH-T35), or the Boehringer Ingelheim Veterinary Scholar Program (BI-VSP). While students in COE or BI-VSP have a 10-week schedule, students participating in the NIH T35 program have an additional two weeks, as their program was designed for 12 weeks. The NIH T35 collaborative summer research experience grant (#T35OD010432) is with Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine (MSU-CVM). T35 students have the choice to participate in summer research experience either at TUCVM or MSU-CVM, giving them flexibility, especially for those who want to be close to home. Annually, the TVSP program recruits 10-15 veterinary students in the three sub-programs combined, to spend their summer in TUCVM research labs.

Clinical faculty mentor and enroll veterinary students in clinical medical research in their interest areas. Every year, one first or second year TVSP scholar also works with a mentor in the USDA National Poultry Research Laboratory, Athens, GA. As part of the educational activities organized during the summer TVSP, students visit veterinarian researchers at the CDC or other major institutions to learn about how graduates of a veterinary program can run and support biomedical research.

Travel and external site visits were all cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic, but in June 2021, TVSP students visited Institute for Marine Mammal Studies (IMMS) in Gulfport, MS. TUCVM alum Dr Debra Moore '87, an IMMS veterinarian, facilitated the visit. During the visit, students experienced how dolphins, sea lions, sea turtles, and a host of other aquatic species are examined and rehabilitated.

"TVSP is not just laboratory bench work; among others, students gain skills on teamwork, writing, public presentation, critical thinking, data analysis, study design and organization," said Dr. Temesgen Samuel, associate dean for Research and Advanced Studies.

TVSP educational activities include sessions on career choices, CVs and resumes, scientific communication, poster preparation, grant writing, and presentations by external and internal speakers on scientific, clinical, or career topics.

In addition to on-campus TVSP, one to two students participate in summer research experience outside campus, mainly either in Georgia or Louisiana. Besides the summer-focused TVSP research opportunities, USDA NIFA Capacity Building Grants also offer opportunities to interested DVM students to participate in research during both the academic year and summer.

Before the end of the program, all summer research scholars are expected to complete their research results and submit a poster or presentation to the National Veterinary Scholars Symposium (NVSS) and/or to the annual symposium hosted by Tuskegee University.

TVSP is directed by the Office of Research and Advanced Studies with Dr. Temesgen Samuel and Ms. Tammie Hughley, who serves as the Office's manager/coordinator. Dr. Teshome Yehualaeshet, professor in the Department of Pathobiology, coordinates the Boehringer-Ingelheim Veterinary Scholars Program. For more information, contact Dr. Samuel at tsamuel@tuskegee.edu or visit the website: <https://www.tuskegee.edu/programs-courses/colleges-schools/cvm/cvm-tuskegee-veterinary-scholars-program-tvsp>.

TVSP students pose with alum Dr Debra Moore '87 during summer trip to the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies (IMMS) in Gulfport, MS.

Tuskegee Veterinary College of Veterinary Medicine Holds Virtual White Coat Ceremony for the Class of 2022



TUCVM's holds virtual 2021 Department of Graduate Public Health's Pinning Ceremony



Faculty and staff, family members, friends, and special guests were all invited to virtually support and honor TUCVM's Class of 2022 on February 27. Veterinary medical students were presented their "white coats" during the Annual White Coat Ceremony to welcome them to the clinical phase of the veterinary medical curriculum. Although the students had to accept their white coats in a virtual setting, the significance of this accomplishment was honored with an official program presided by Dr. Roslyn Casimir, associate dean of Academic Affairs at TUCVM, under the leadership of Dean Ruby L. Perry. The college's Office of Student Affairs assisted with the planning of the ceremony. Dr. Fredrick Tippet serves as the associate dean of Student Affairs.

Save the Date
 Friday, February 26, 2021
 5:00 p.m. CST
 Open to the Public
 Via Zoom:

5th Annual Graduate Public Health Pinning Ceremony

The annual pinning is held to mark the beginning of our student's community engagement by receiving the departmental jacket that is to be worn when presenting in professional and community settings. It is also serving to acknowledge the completion of the basic requirements for the masters of public health degree and progress toward the final requirement of the thesis/practicum for second year students.

Challenge Speaker
 Ruben C. Warren, D.D.S., M.P.H., Dr. P.H., M. Div.
 Executive Director,
 National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care

Dept. Graduate Public Health
 College of Veterinary Medicine
 Tuskegee University

For More Information Contact:
 MW1002@tuskegee.edu or
 Games@tuskegee.edu

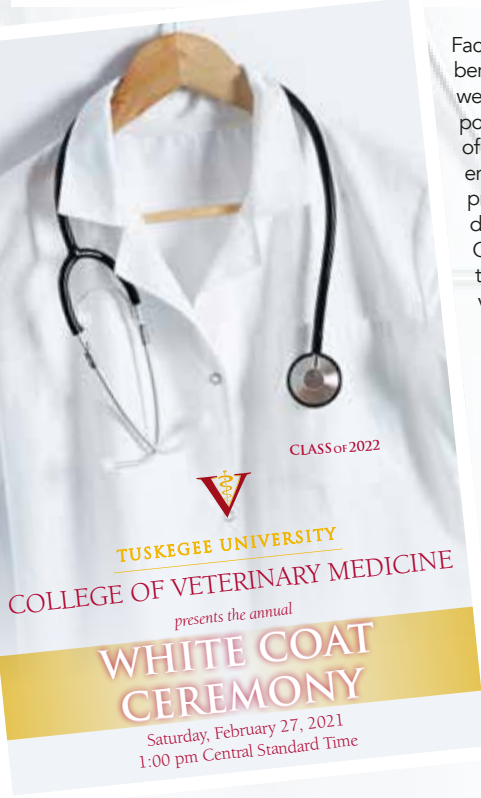
The Fifth Annual Graduate Public Health Program Pinning Ceremony was held on Friday, February 26, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. CST. It was a virtual event in which the public was invited to see via zoom. The annual pinning ceremony marks the beginning of the graduate public health students' community engagement. It also serves to acknowledge the completion of the basic requirements for the Master of Public Health degree and progress towards the final requirement of thesis/practicum for second year students.

For anyone who did not get a chance to view the TUCVM Virtual 2021 DGPH's Pinning Ceremony, please go to the link below to see the recorded video. The video has also been posted on the at the following links which also have the link included to view the video.

To view the video, the following passcode must be entered: %1G@qJCN and the video link is listed the news story page for the virtual 2021 DGPH Pinning Ceremony at the following links:

<https://www.tuskegee.edu/programs-courses/colleges-schools/cvm/cvm-dgph-pinning-ceremony-2021>

<https://www.tuskegee.edu/programs-courses/colleges-schools/cvm/cvm-dgph-news>



All were able to view the ceremony by going to the Tuskegee University YouTube link at www.youtube.com/tuskegeeeuniversity. In addition, for anyone who missed the ceremony on Feb. 27, the recorded video can still be accessed through the university's YouTube channel at the same link.

The representatives from the veterinary medical associations who sponsored and donated white coats to the students from their states and participated in the virtual white coat ceremony included Dr. Randall B. Davis - president, Alabama Veterinary Medical Association (ALVMA), and Dr. Jason L. Rodgers - president-elect, Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association (KVMA). Dr. Calvin M. Johnson, dean of the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM); and Dr. Harvey Crumm, senior academic liaison for Zoetis Animal Health, joined Dean Perry in giving greetings along with Dr. Davis and Dr. Rodgers. TUCVM is grateful for the support given by Zoetis Animal Health as well as the other participating organizations which included the Auburn University CVM, the ALVMA and the KVMA.

Saturday, February 27, 2021
 1:00 pm Central Standard Time

Tuskegee's College Of Veterinary Medicine Makes The Holidays Merrier With Drive-Up Gift Card Event At George Washington Carver School



The Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine (TUCVM) family didn't let the coronavirus pandemic deter the true spirit of giving to help make the holidays a little merrier. On Fri., Dec. 11, all pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and first-grade children at George Washington Carver (GWC) Elementary School located in Tuskegee, got a special treat from TUCVM's Santa and helpers with a drive-up event.

Due to COVID-19, many plans for the university have been revamped. So the College's Office of Student Affairs, under the leadership of Dean Ruby L. Perry and Associate Dean of Student Affairs Dr. Fredrick Tippet, decided to continue what is now an annual tradition and move forward with the Sixth Annual TUCVM "Toy Drive for Tots," just with a little different twist.

"The 'Toy Drive for Tots' is an annual tradition in our college that was inspired by the Class of 2019 and the TUCVM administration. The event is supported with active engagement from the college's faculty, staff and students. Although done slightly different this year due to the pandemic, Dr. Tippet and his helpers made sure all 233 students were remembered during this holiday season," Dean Perry said.

The purpose of the "Toy Drive for Tots" event was to help parents purchase toys and school supplies for the holidays for all 233 boys and girls at GWC Elementary School in the Pre-K, K, and 1st grades.

"Our TUCVM first-year class has traditionally been responsible for the holiday decorations in the lobby at the college as well as taking the lead in the annual toy drive event collection. However, because of the impact from the COVID-19 pandemic, we decided to distribute gift cards, not toys and we held a 'drive-up gift card distribution' event at GWC not an 'inside-gym/auditorium' activity to pass out toys as we did last year," Dr. Tippet said.

"Due to our dean's support and the giving hearts of our TUCVM family, we were successful in giving each of the 233 children a \$10.00 gift card which could be used to purchase holiday gifts and school items. The drive up event was a joyous celebration with the children at GWC," Tippet concluded.

To ensure all 233 boys and girls in all three classes at the elementary school received a gift card; TUCVM divided its efforts for the gift card collection into three sections among the four veterinary medical classes of 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 and the TUCVM faculty and staff. The Office of Student Affairs and GWC teachers assisted (as Santa and his helpers) in the distribution of the gift cards to each student as the cars drove up to the school.

GWC's Principal Norman Williams, Jr., Counselor Gloria Clinkscales and the GWC other committee members Susan Gandy, Natasha Sparks and Curtis Wynn helped with the gift card drive up organization on the school's end. The teachers and administration at George Washington Carver Elementary School were appreciative that the Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine had again continued the tradition in selecting their students to participate in the "Toy Drive for Tots" program.

"Thanks to the college's students, faculty and staff, under the direction of Dr. Tippet and the Office of Student Affairs, for diligently working to make the drive by gift card event for the '2020 Toy Drive for Tots' a success. In a year of so much sadness, it is wonderful to be able to lift the spirits of children and help make their holidays special," Dean Perry said.

TUCVM Holds Several Health and Wellness Virtual Activities

Ms. Kheri Flowers, director for student success and retention, oversees the coordination of activities for the college's health and wellness program under the Office of Academic Affairs and Associate Dean Dr. Roslyn Casimir.

This academic year wellness activities were incorporated to reinforce the importance of achieving work-life balance under the "A Taste of Wellness" program. Several wellness activities were planned virtually to include:

- Grief Support Listening Session
- Yoga
- Validate-Appreciate-Refer (VAR Non-Crisis) Training Webinar
- Suicide Prevention Training Webinar
- When the Flame Goes Out: Self Care to Combat Compassion Fatigue and Burnout Webinar
- Keep Your Cup Full: Self Care and Wellness Webinar
- 30 Day Step into Success Challenge
- 5K Walk and Run
- Mental Health: Managing Stress and Anxiety Webinar
- TUCVM SAVMA Week of Wellness
- TU Mind Over Matter: Mental Health Awareness Initiative Program
- *AU CVM Wellness Week

All webinars were facilitated by Mental Health experts. The college expanded its outreach and program impact by partnering with Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine.

A mental health virtual session was held October 27 entitled "Managing Stress and Anxiety Listening Session." The TUCVM Health and Wellness activity kicked off the new year with the webinar, "Keep Your Cup Full: Self-Care and Wellness Workshop" for faculty and staff. This self-care webinar provided the following:

- A look at the impact of first and second-hand trauma and anxiety.
- Instructions for mindfulness exercises, grounding, and other techniques for coping with trauma and heightened anxiety.
- A review of psychological education surrounding current events.
- Advice for achieving a better work/life balance, as well as a sample self-care checklist and how to use it.
- A discussion on self-care strategies and how to utilize them to support students who are experiencing trauma.

For February, TUCVM Health and Wellness activity featured a "30 Day Step Challenge" for faculty, staff and students in which the top three winners were given prizes. The 30 day challenge ran from February 15 to March 16. The top three winners were: *TUCVM Faculty with the most steps - Dr. Gbemisola Akingbade*, *TUCVM Staff with the most steps - Montheletha Mitchell*, and *TUCVM Student with the most steps - Kayla Landers*.

"Like other professional schools, we are working to foster a college culture that emphasizes wellness because we understand that when we promote an environment of wellness it promotes student success," Ms. Flowers said.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT...

TUCVM ADMISSIONS STEPS

STEP 1: APPLICATION PORTAL



- A VMCAS Admissions account must be created for candidates to apply.
- <https://vmcas.liasoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>



STEP 2: SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION & SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Tuskegee University CVM Supplemental Application
- \$100.00 Supplemental Application Fee
 - Digital Passport Standard Photo
 - GRE Test Scores
 - Transcripts



STEP 4: FILE REVIEW

- File review based upon the following:
- Strong candidates who exceed the minimum academic requirements
 - Candidates who meet minimum academic requirements.
 - Candidates who satisfy the criteria of articulation agreements for admission



STEP 3: APPLICATION CHECK LIST

- VMCAS application
- TUCVM Supplemental Application
- \$100.00 Supplemental Application Fee
- Digital Passport Standard Photo
- GRE Test Scores
- Confidential Evaluations submitted via VMCAS



STEP 5: INTERVIEW



The interview process is critical for admission to the professional program. All applicants must successfully complete this phase before they can be considered for admission.



STEP 6: ADMISSIONS DECISION

After the interview process, the complete folders for applicants will be evaluated by the Admissions Committee. Based on this assessment, the Committee will recommend one of the following:

1. Admit
2. Placed on Alternate List
3. No Admission



CONTACT TUCVM OFFICE OF VETERINARY ADMISSIONS AND RECRUITMENT

College of Veterinary Medicine
Office of Veterinary Admissions and Recruitment
Patterson Hall Rm. A106
1200 Old Montgomery Rd.
Tuskegee, AL 36088

Phone: (334) 727-8460
Email: vetadmissions@tuskegee.edu
Webpage: www.tuskegee.edu/vetmed

STEP 7: COMPLETE ENROLLMENT

- Applicant becomes a student when enrollment is complete which includes:
- Must accept admissions offer.
 - Must complete admissions packet.





College of Veterinary Medicine
 Patterson Hall
 1200 West Montgomery Road
 Tuskegee Institute, AL 36088

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Dates To Note For Fall 2021

SEPTEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

NOVEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

TUCVM First Year Orientation & VLE/TOLE
 August 5-8, 2021
 WELCOME 1ST YEAR STUDENTS c/o 2025!

TUCVM 1ST Day of Class
 Monday, August 9, 2021

TU Scholarship Convocation Observation
 Friday, October 8, 2021

**TUCVM Fall Break for Students
 (Mental Health Days)**
 Thursday & Friday, October 14-15, 2021

TU Homecoming
 Thursday & Friday, October 22-23, 2021

Charter Day/Homecoming Convocation
 Sunday, October 24, 2021

TUCVM End Date for Fall Semester
 Tuesday, November 16, 2021

TUCVM Final Exam Days
 November 17-23, 2021

**** VMCAS CYCLE DEADLINE:**

SEPTEMBER 15, 2021 @ 11:59PM EASTERN TIME

** The deadline for all applications and supporting documents.

** VMCAS (Veterinary Medical College Application Service)