

Congratulations to Dr. Claudia Kirk

Effective January 1, 2009, Claudia Kirk, DVM, PhD, Diplomate ACVN & ACVIM, and Professor of Medicine & Nutrition was appointed Head of the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences for a period of five years. Dr. Kirk has been serving as

Acting Department Head since August, 2007, and we are delighted to welcome her in this new appointment.



Information

Main number:
(865) 974-VETS (8387)

Department:
Office: (865) 974-5503
FAX: (865) 974-5554

Introducing Dr. Sharon Startup



Dr. Sharon L. Startup joined SACS in June, 2008, and will be performing dental procedures one day a week in the new dental facility. Dr. Startup graduated from the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine in 1985, followed by a Small Animal Medicine and Surgery internship at the University of Tennessee in 1986. She has been in private practice since 1986 and has focused on the practice of dentistry since 1997.

Dr. Startup's primary focus at the university is to increase students' knowledge of veterinary dentistry and oral surgery. "Dental disease affects about 80% of our patients," says Dr. Startup, "but in today's veterinary teaching hospitals it gets less than 10% of the focus." Currently, only six

veterinary schools have dental residency training programs, although that number is rapidly increasing. "Many of our patients are suffering silently with dental pain," says Dr. Startup. "My hope is to keep the University of Tennessee up-to-date, if not ahead of the curve, in dental education. The benefits to this are that more of our patients will be out of pain and will have a better quality of life."

On February 12, Dr. Startup along with Dr. Stephen Juriga, a boarded veterinary dentist in the Chicago area, donated their time to the Chicago (Brookfield) Zoo where they worked on an African Wild Dog (pictured below), three baboons, an aardvark (pictured above), and a Syke's monkey. The Syke's monkey is 1 of only 3 in captivity in the US and is on the endangered species list.



In this issue:

- Congratulations
- Dr. Sharon Startup
- New dental suite
- Current clinical studies

And, introducing the new dental suite...

January was an exciting month in the Small Animal clinic, due to the unveiling of our new dental suite. This state-of-the-art space was generously donated by the Midmark Corporation, a leading supplier of superior veterinary dental equipment.

Along with ample custom cabinetry for the suite, a Canis Major power lift table, fixed height wet treatment table, and Vet Pro 1000 dental delivery system were provided.



These new accommodations will increase our efficiency by allowing two separate procedures to be performed simultaneously. A projected increase in our caseload will provide excellent exposure and experience for our students, especially in their clinical year.

Digital dental radiography will be available in March upon arrival of a new dental radiology unit which has been donated by AFP Imaging Corporation. This will allow us to expand our current services to include surgical extractions, periodontics, and endodontic therapy. Stay tuned and watch us grow!

Clinical Projects <http://www.vet.utk.edu/studies/index.php>

Area	Study	Contact
Mycology	Treatment of systemic aspergillosis with a new antifungal drug, posaconazole	Dr. Al Legendre
Neurology	The benefit of hearing tests (i.e., brainstem-auditory evoked response/BAER) in dogs with vestibular disease	Drs. Christina Wolf or William Thomas
Neurology	New drug for initial treatment of idiopathic epilepsy in dogs	Dr. William Thomas
Oncology	Evaluation of the mTOR inhibitor Rapamycin in dogs with osteosarcoma	Dr. Jeffrey Phillips
Oncology	Identifying risk factors for the development of canine osteosarcoma	Dr. Jeffrey Phillips
Oncology	Immunocytokine therapy for dogs with oral melanoma (financial incentive for owners)	Dr. Amy LeBlanc
Oncology	Treatment with tyrosine kinase and chemotherapy of advanced malignancies	Dr. Al Legendre
Oncology	The UTCVM comparative oncology program tumor tissue and DNA databank	Drs. Jeffrey Phillips, Amy LeBlanc, or Al Legendre
Oncology	Whole-body PET/CT scans in dogs and cats with cancer (financial incentive for owners)	Dr. Amy LeBlanc
Orthopedics	NSAID for cats with osteoarthritis	Dr. Darryl Millis
Physical rehab/CARES	Clinical evaluation of extracorporeal shock wave therapy for management of canine osteoarthritis of the elbow joints (financial incentive for clients)	Drs. Marti Drum or Darryl Millis
Physical rehab/CARES	The effect of diet on muscle atrophy following surgery for cranial cruciate ligament rupture	Dr. Marti Drum
Soft tissue surgery	Evaluation of intra-tracheal stenting in dogs with collapsing trachea www.yorkieangelpatrol.com	Drs. Mark Bohling or Patricia Sura
Soft tissue surgery	Silicone footpad implants in greyhounds with corns	Dr. Mark Bohling
Soft tissue surgery/ oncology	Investigation of sentinel nodes in cutaneous mast cell disease	Dr. Patricia Sura
Urinary	Cats with idiopathic hypercalcemia and calcium oxalate stones (monetary incentive for owners and referring veterinarians)	Dr. Joe Bartges
Urinary	A new diet in managing Dalmatians that have had urate bladder stones	Dr. Joe Bartges