

THE MONTHLY MULE MEMO

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS



Academic & Student Affairs

College of Veterinary Medicine

University of Missouri

W213 Vet Med Building

WORDS FROM THE ASSOCIATE DEAN

By Associate Dean Dr. Snider

As we step into January, the month of new beginnings, I encourage each of you to embrace this season with purpose and positivity. Veterinary medicine is a journey marked by learning, growth, and a constant pursuit of excellence.

This year, set goals that challenge you—not only academically but also personally. Whether it's mastering a new skill, seeking balance in your life, or building stronger connections, commit to becoming the best version of yourself.

Dr. Temple Grandin, a visionary in animal behavior, once said, "You have to keep experimenting and trying new things." Let her words inspire you to approach 2025 with curiosity and courage.

Remember, progress is not always about perfection; it's about persistence. Together, let's make this year one of achievement, resilience and impact.

Here's to a year of growth, success and new possibilities. Let's begin!



UPCOMING CVM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE

Attention CVM students—don't miss the opportunity to apply for scholarships! Applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM on January 12th.

For VM1–VM3 students, the 2025–2026 FAFSA must be completed by February 1st to be considered for need-based awards. VM4 students are not required to submit a new FAFSA, as 2024–2025 FAFSA data will be used to determine financial need.

Additionally, letters of recommendation for the Dr. Barry Kipperman scholarship must be received by 8:00 AM on January 13th to be included with your application. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa McCubbins at lmccubbins@missouri.edu.

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"Veterinarians are not just animal doctors, they are animal advocates."
—Anonymous

MONTHLY NAVLE PREP QUESTION

In canine patients with primary hyperparathyroidism, a chemistry panel would show:

- A. Hypocalcemia, hypophosphatemia
- B. Hypocalcemia, hyperphosphatemia
- C. Hypercalcemia, hypophosphatemia
- D. Hypercalcemia, hyperphosphatemia

(ANSWER ON PAGE 3)

CLUB CORNER: CMPC

The Comparative Medicine & Pathology Club (CMPC) highlights the critical yet often underrepresented fields of veterinary medicine, including clinical and anatomical pathology, laboratory animal medicine, and research. Our mission is to provide veterinary students with opportunities to expand their skills while fostering an appreciation for the essential roles of pathology and research in accurate diagnosis, effective treatment, and disease prevention. This past semester, we hosted monthly cytology rounds, explored pathology in the digital age, organized a rodent spay/neuter lab, held a spooky zoonotic case night, and toured the Alta Sciences facility. We also hosted a panel discussion featuring military veterinarians, paired with a successful donation drive benefiting Welcome Home, a local organization supporting homeless veterans. Additionally, three students had the opportunity to present posters at this year's ACVP/ASVCP Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA.

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue providing our members with engaging and insightful opportunities. Planned events for the Spring/Summer semester include our monthly cytology rounds, a patient-derived xenograft (PDX) wet lab and lecture, a "Broken Hearts" pathology lecture, Smithsonian Zoo pathology cases, a joint necropsy lab with the Swine Club, and discussions on laboratory animal behavior, enrichment and welfare. Through these opportunities, we aim to inspire our peers to explore the vital contributions of pathology, research, and comparative medicine in advancing animal health.

- CMPC Officers: Jenelle Catalina, Mikaela Daoud, Liv Hritzkowin, & Perla Bermudez



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

1/6/25 - IP 3, 8 STARTS

1/12/25 - SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE

1/20/25 - MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
(NO CLASSES, OFFICES CLOSED)

1/26/25 - CLINICAL BLOCK 2,10 ENDS

1/27/25 - CLINICAL BLOCK 3, 11 BEGINS





VETERINARY READING RAINBOW

A MONTHLY BOOK SUGGESTION FROM DR. SNIDER'S BOOKSHELVES



“She Has Her Mother’s Laugh”: Carl Zimmer

This month’s reading selection comes from the great science communicator – Carl Zimmer, author of Parasite Rex. In “She Has Her Mother’s Laugh”, Zimmer takes on the sciences of heredity and genetics in a contemporary context, yet within his readable and engaging prose. This book is eye-opening about the science of genetics, with numerous fascinating stories about heredity of traits, diseases and behaviors.

FOCUS ON WELLNESS

And just like that, 2024 is in the rearview mirror. New Year’s Eve is the perfect time to reflect on the past year and reassess your wellness goals. These simple prompts can help you take stock of where you are and where you want to go in 2025:

1. Thank yourself for the positive changes you made in 2024 — everything from walking extra steps to making space for mindfulness.
2. Identify some areas of improvement in the new year. Zero in on the most important and attainable. Start small!
3. Check your mindset. Consider how you’ll approach making these changes by identifying any negative self talk that’s getting in the way of reaching your goals.

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PAWSOME AWARD

Congratulations to Danielle Hurd, a senior registered veterinary technician, Community Practice, as the December 2024 PAWsome Award Winner. Thank you for all your Pawsome work!

Timothy A. Snider, DVM, PhD, DACVP
Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs

Lisa McCubbins
Executive Assistant for Student Affairs

Lisa Thompson
Senior Student Support Specialist for Academic Affairs

Jennifer Hamilton
Educational Program Coordinator II

Stephanie McClaren
Educational Program Manager

Kathy Seay
Admissions Manager

Kerry Karaffa
Psychologist

Tiffany Sanford-Martens
Psychologist

Doug Tindall
Recruiter

A LITTLE DAD JOKE HUMOR

Q: What does a cat have for breakfast?



A: Mice Crispies!

Answer to this month’s NAVLE prep question:
Answer: C) Hypercalcemia, hypophosphatemia