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Iowa State University

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SCAVMA Teaching Award Winners
Kevin Taylor*

This spring at the annual awards meeting, SCAVMA presented the first annual SCAVMA Teaching Awards. Two awards were presented, one for basic sciences and one for clinical sciences. Nominees were taken from the student body and a committee from SCAVMA Executive Council narrowed the nominees down to five for each award. This year the Basic Science Award Nominees were: Dr. Donald Adams (Veterinary Anatomy), Gary Althouse (Physiology/Pharmacology), Dr. John Greve (Veterinary Pathology), Dr. Jim Roth (Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine), and Dr. Thomas Sanderson (Diagnostic Laboratory). The Clinical Science Award Nominees were: Val Hinz, Dr. Albert Jergens, Dr. Karl Kersting, Dr. Dean Riedesel, and Dr. James Noxon. The students voted on the five nominees with juniors and seniors voting for the Clinical Science Award and all students voting for the Basic Sciences Award.

This year the winners were Dr. John Greve and Dr. Karl Kersting. Dr. Greve is a professor in the pathology department and has been on the staff since 1963. He received his BS, DVM, and MS degrees at Michigan State and his PhD at Purdue. Dr. Greve’s graphic representation of parasites in action makes his class not only educational but also entertaining. Who could ever forget his imitation of a questing tick? Dr. Greve and his wife, Sally, are very active in student activities including SCAVMA, SCAVMA Auxiliary, and Omega Tau Sigma.

Dr. Kersting has been on staff since 1986 and is in charge of food animal medicine and surgery. He received his BS from New Mexico State, his DVM from Purdue and his MS from Ohio State University. Dr. Kersting’s characteristic swagger and huge coffee cup, that often appears to be a permanent attachment to his arm, make him easy to spot from across the barn. Students really enjoy his laid back teaching approach and are impressed by his ability to diagnose a cow’s problem from twenty feet away. Dr. Kersting is also actively involved with students as an advisor at Omega Tau Sigma, AABF, and leading large animal rounds for the freshman, sophomores and juniors.

Dr. Greve and Dr. Kersting are excellent role models for the students and a credit to our profession and college. These two professors will be nominated by the Iowa State SCAVMA Chapter for the Student AVMA Teaching Excellence Awards. Winners of these awards will be announced next March.

*Kevin Taylor is a fourth year student in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University.