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Dr. Dellmann Retires From ISU After 23 Years

Eric Olson[†]

I have known Dr. Dellmann for over twenty years. Our relationship has evolved over the past couple years and as a mentor, he helped to develop my interest in Veterinary Medicine.

H. Dieter Dellmann has always struck me as a practical man. As a youth, while working as a farm hand, he saw an ox with bloat die due to the delayed arrival of the veterinary surgeon. He realized that there was a shortage of veterinarians and started preparing himself for a career in this profession.

Dr. H. Dieter Dellmann arrived at Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1975. During the ensuing twenty-three years, Dr. Dellmann committed himself to both research and teaching.

The College of Veterinary Medicine moved from its main campus location in the Veterinary Quadrangle the present location just a year later. Dr. Dellmann experienced some reservations about the relocation. The physical separation between the College and the main ISU campus placed physical obstacles especially with faculty collaborations.

Dr. Dellmann takes great pride in his research on the degeneration and regeneration of neurosecretory systems, conducted in the first half of the seventies. During that period, Dr. Dellmann made extensive use of electron microscopy in support of his research, and published a series of journal articles. He continued this work throughout his tenure at the College of Veterinary Medicine, balancing the demands of research, teaching, and administration.

Microscopic Anatomy has been a core course that Dr. Dellmann has directed for

many years. In support of his course, he collaborated on a textbook. *The Textbook Of Veterinary Histology* was first published in 1976 and is now in its fifth edition. In signing this latest edition for me, Dieter expressed his wish that he might have been my teacher.

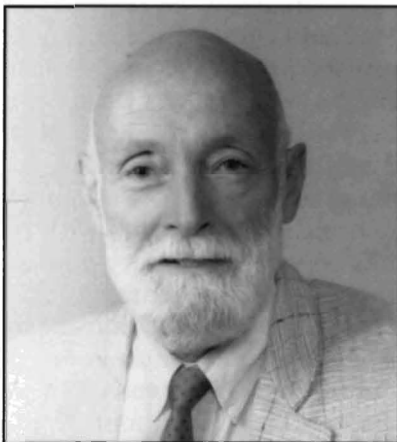
Teaching has always been important to Dr. Dellmann, though his demanding style has not always endeared him to students. Many former students express envy at my escaping Dieter Dellmann's "wrath". I respect Dr. Dellmann's strong commitment to supporting the credibility and

high standards of the veterinary profession. By being uncompromising in the laying of the foundation, you can have the confidence to build an enduring education.

Dr. Dellmann's energies were not just limited to the classroom. He served on a curriculum committee during the tenure of Dean Fletcher that investigated new directions to be addressed by the College of Veterinary Medicine. A model curriculum was presented that included problem-based approach to teaching and preceptorships. Though the model was not universally adopted, it spawned the Rural General Practice Option and was made available to senior students. Dr. Dellmann experienced great pleasure in observing the students' progress in confidence and diagnostic ability.

Dr. Dellmann's involvement in such courses as Developmental Anatomy and Clinical/Surgical Anatomy provided additional teaching challenges to keep him on his toes.

Dr. Dellmann acknowledges the specialization of our profession with the proliferation of referral hospitals and corporate clinics. He suggests that surgery and dermatology are growth areas in veterinary medicine. ♦



Dr. Dellmann, author of the *Textbook of Veterinary Histology*.

Biomedical Communications, ISU

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