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Dr. Roth Receives Salsbury Chair

Travis Saveraid†

Last May, Dr. James Roth was named the first recipient of the John G. Salsbury Chair in Veterinary Medicine. This endowed chair was created with a generous challenge gift of \$1 million dollars from Dr. John G. Salsbury and his wife, Doris Salsbury. The purpose of this endowed chair is to continue to attract eminent and outstanding faculty to the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Salsbury (ISU, '40) spent his working career expanding Salsbury Laboratories, an animal health company founded by his father, Dr. J.E. Salsbury. The company is widely known in the domestic and international health industry and today sells products under the name of Fort Dodge Animal Health. Dr. Salsbury has been previously recognized by ISU with the Stange Award in 1974 and the ISU Alumni Recognition Medal in 1980.

The appointment to the Salsbury Chair lasts for 3 years and the monetary support allows the researcher to continue current research or extend into new areas. Dr. Roth has started to investigate the basis for T-cell induced protective immunity against Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus (BRSV) in young calves. "Our long term goal is to develop a better vaccine for BRSV," said Dr. Roth. "(The Salsbury

Chair) helps me a lot because it will let me get background data on this topic. It lets me get into this area, develop some data so that I can write some grant proposals and get some extramural funding.

It will really contribute to my research program."

Dr. Roth's appointment to this prestigious position has culminated a meteoric rise through the academic ranks at ISU. Earning his DVM in 1975, he also completed a M.S. (1979) and a Ph.D. (1981) at ISU. With extraordinary drive and a knack for writing grants, he has graduated 24 graduate students in the last 20 years and attracted grants totaling 6.5 million dollars. He has also been recognized for teaching excellence at the college by receiving the Norden Teaching

Award and the Basic Sciences teaching award multiple times. According to Dr. Roth, "The best (part of teaching) is interacting with the students. It is always fun to start lecturing and see the students get interested and start asking good questions."

In his limited free time, Dr. Roth enjoys farming his family's acreage outside of Ames. "I have an old tractor and an old corn planter and I farm my 13 acre farm myself." He also enjoys going on family vacations with his wife and their 3 children.

Congratulations Dr. Roth!♦



Dr. James Roth is the first appointee to the newly created John G. Salsbury Endowed Chair at the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

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