1995

Teaching Awards - 1995

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Iowa State University

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Norden Teaching Award 1995
Maggie Ladd*

"I like facilitating students' learning by presenting exciting material that I enjoy, and that they can use and enjoy themselves," says Dr. Mary Ann Nieves, DVM, the 1995 winner of the Norden Teaching Award. This award is given each year to a professor in veterinary medicine who demonstrates excellence in teaching, character, leadership, and dedication to the profession of veterinary science. She remembers that the classes and the subjects that she enjoyed most in school were those that the instructor made interesting, challenging, and enjoyable; she attempts to do the same for her own students.

Dr. Nieves began her education at University of Colorado, where she received a BA in Environmental, Population and Organismic Biology in 1978. She then completed her DVM at Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1984. In 1989 she did her residency in small animal surgery, and in 1990, became an assistant professor in small animal surgery at ISU. In 1993 she received her MS in Veterinary Clinical Sciences from Iowa State University. Currently she is an assistant professor of small animal surgery and the director of the Wildlife Care Clinic.

Dr. Nieves teaches small animal orthopedic surgery to fourth-year veterinary students, as well as orthopedic surgical techniques to third-year veterinary students in the small animal surgery laboratory. She also teaches a veterinary dentistry elective, in addition to numerous other orthopedic classes and electives. She has done numerous lectures and presentations on a variety of topics such as canine hip dysplasia, gene therapy in the treatment and prevention of canine osteosarcoma, wildlife nutrition, ostrich medical and surgical problems, and small animal dentistry.

Dr. Nieves enjoys spending time with her family, and although she does not have much time for her hobbies, she also enjoys winter sports, sailing, needlework, horseback riding, photography, the ocean, and fishing most of all.

Stange Awards 1995

The 1995 recipients of the Stange Award for excellence in education, government, industry, practice or other professional endeavors in veterinary medicine were Drs. John B. Mulder, Tuscon, AZ, M.E. Johnson, Des Moines, IA, and Jerry L. Gingerich, Punta Gorda, FL. This is an annual award to Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine(ISU CVM) alumni.

Dr. Mulder is a 1956 graduate of ISU CVM. He served in the US Army Biological Warfare Labs for two years after graduation. He was a successful practitioner for 10 years, then he pursued a career in lab animal care and use. He is a Diplomat of the ACLAM and has been president of the ASLAP. He continues to be an influential expert in the field of management of lab animals and the planning and construction of facilities to house these animals. He has held professorships in medicine, surgery, physiology, pharmacology and toxicology at four universities and, although he is retired, he serves on the board of directors of several national veterinary organizations.

Dr. Johnson is a 1968 graduate of Iowa State. He is a leader in organized veterinary medicine. He created the Veterinary Medicine Group in Des Moines, IA, which now contains four AAHA accredited hospitals. He has been the President of the AAHA, and in 1992, he was the Iowa Veterinarian of the Year. He is an active supporter of the ISU CVM, and has been on the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association and on several advisory committees to the Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Gingerich is a 1973 graduate of ISU CVM. He helped form the Peace River Audobon Society and the Peace River Wildlife Center in Punta Gorda, FL, where he runs two AAHA accredited hospitals. One of his hobbies is wildlife photography and has a collection of over 100,000 slides including those of 300 bird species, 400 mammal species, 300 reptile species and numerous fish, insects and flowers from around the world. Some of his photographs were in the book Florida's Fabulous Mammals. He is a popular speaker and very interested in the preservation of the world's wildlife.

* Maggie Ladd is a third-year student in the College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State Univ.. She is the author of all the award articles.

Iowa State Veterinarian
SCAVMA Teaching Award - Clinical Sciences

The 1995 recipient of the SCAVMA teaching award for Veterinary Clinical Sciences was Dr. Albert E. Jergens, DVM, MS. He was chosen for this award because of his intense interest in students and learning. This is obvious in his teaching style and approach to clinical medicine. He opens each junior clinical medicine lecture with “Good morning, how are y’all?” and a slide of some part of his beloved beautiful home state of Texas. Then he plunges into the world of diarrhea, vomiting and GI disease. He not only lecturers on vomit and diarrhea, but also provides students with cases that give them an organized, lucient perspective on the approach to GI disease in small animals, and clinical medicine as a whole. His energy and enthusiasm are infectious and create an environment in the classroom that nurtures learning.

Dr. Jergens began his career in Veterinary Medicine in Texas. He received a BS in Biomedical Science, a BS in Veterinary Science, and a DVM from Texas A & M University. He then worked for a year as an associate veterinarian at Kirkwood - Briarforest Animal Clinic in Houston, Texas. After completing a small animal internal medicine residency at the University of Missouri - Columbia College of Veterinary Medicine, he joined the staff at the Angell Memorial Animal Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts as an intern. While an intern, he taught as a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at Tufts University College of Veterinary Medicine in North Grafton, Massachusetts. He was board certified in Internal Medicine in 1988. He and his wife, Dr. Kristina Miles, came to the ISU Veterinary Teaching Hospital in 1989, and he received a MS in Veterinary Pathology in 1994 from ISU.

While at Iowa State, Dr. Jergens has practiced the same enthusiasm and energetic pursuit of knowledge and teaching as he has throughout his career. He has served on numerous committees, both collegiate and departmental. In 1990, he won the Norden Teaching Award for his excellence in teaching, character, leadership and dedication to the profession of veterinary science - within a year of his arrival at ISU. He teaches many graduate and residency courses as well as clinical science classes. Veterinary students experience his teaching in the basic clinical medicine course, as well as the small animal internal medicine rotations. In addition, he donates his time to teaching electives in small animal internal medicine and special topics near and dear to him, including vomiting and diarrhea.

Dr. Jergens has published multiple articles in peer-reviewed journals on GI function, diseases and diagnostics. He has written numerous textbook chapters, including a chapter on diarrhea in Ettinger and Feldman’s latest edition of the Textbook of Veterinary Internal Medicine. He has been invited to speak at multiple symposiums, conferences and forums held around the nation.

SCAVMA Teaching Award - Basic Sciences

The 1995 recipient of the SCAVMA Teaching Award for Basic Sciences was Dr. Monica Howard, DVM, Ph.D. Dr. Howard is an assistant professor in Veterinary Pathology at Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine, where she teaches Systemic Pathology, a necropsy laboratory practicum, and a graduate course in Toxicology Methods.

Dr. Howard received her DVM, and Bachelor of Science in Animal Science from Tuskegee Institute. She then completed a Ph.D. in Veterinary Pathology at Oklahoma State University in 1990. Since coming to ISU in 1990, she has won the Outstanding Advisor of the Year Award, and been active in many professional services and committees both at the College of Veterinary Medicine, and in the community. She has advised the Student Recreation and Stress Relief Organization, and was the faculty advisor for ISU SCAVMA, and is currently an advisor for 23 professional students. She also is a mentor for the Des Moines Area Community College Career Beginnings Program.

Among her many research interests are gene therapy for treatment of osteosarcoma in dogs, morphologic lesions associated with Salmonella choleraesuis var. kuzendorf in pig livers, and toxicologic pathology.

Dr. Howard says that her favorite part of teaching is seeing students put basic principles together to achieve an understanding of larger problems; her reward is seeing “the light bulb come on when a student finally grasps a concept.” Students in return greatly appreciate her help and inspiration in learning pathology.