1996

1996 Stange Award for Meritorious Service in Veterinary Medicine

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Three graduates from the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine are selected each year to receive the Stange Award for Meritorious Service in Veterinary Medicine. They are selected for their outstanding professional accomplishments in education, industry, government, practice or other professional endeavors in veterinary medicine. Dr. Greg Harrison of Lake Worth, Florida, Dr. Wayne R. Freese of Worthington, Minnesota, and Dr. Cary Christensen of Overland Park, Kansas were the recipients for 1996.

Dr. Greg Harrison received his DVM in 1967. He currently owns and operates The Bird Hospital in Lake Worth, Florida, and is a world renown avian veterinarian. He is not only a clinician, but is also a researcher and an author, recently publishing a major veterinary text in avian medicine. He has also written numerous book chapters, clinical articles, edited several books, and been featured on the nationally syndicated public television program The Gentle Doctor.

Dr. Harrison's accolades include being named Diplomate in Avian Practice of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners and serving as president of the Association of Avian Veterinarians as well as an officer on many other boards.

Dr. Wayne R. Freese received his DVM in 1971. Dr. Freese was one of the original founders of Oxford Laboratories, now owned by Upjohn Corporation. He served as Vice President of Diagnostics and Veterinary Services until 1994. He is also a co-owner and practitioner of the Veterinary Medical Center in Worthington, Minnesota.

Dr. Freese is known internationally for his expertise in swine disease and swine production and has served as president of the American Association of Swine Practitioners. He has addressed many veterinary conferences as well as been one of the few selected by the American Association of Swine Practitioners to receive the Meritorious Service Award.

Dr. Cary R. Christensen received his DVM in 1972. He started as co-owner of the Stuart Veterinary Clinic in Stuart, Iowa, where he became known for his knowledge on the treatment and management of livestock disease.

In 1988, Dr. Christensen's career took a new turn when he began working in industrial veterinary medicine. He is currently serving as Technical Manager for the Food Animal Products division of Bayer Corporation. He has been described by many as a visionary in the development of products practical in both application and benefit to the consumer. In addition to his responsibilities for Bayer, he frequently gives consultations and presentations. He also has several current publications related to livestock diseases.
The 1996 Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association (SCAVMA) Clinical Sciences Award winner was Dr. Joanne C. Graham and the 1996 SCAVMA Basic Sciences Award winner was Dr. Ronald W. Griffith.

Dr. Joanne C. Graham is an assistant professor of small animal medicine at the Iowa State University Veterinary Clinical Sciences Department. Her appointment is half clinical services in small animal internal medicine and half in teaching and research.

Originally from Denver, Colo., she received her BS in microbiology and her DVM from the University of Illinois. She earned an MS in Veterinary Clinical Sciences as well. She is board certified by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (oncology) and is licensed in the States of Iowa, Illinois and California.

Her teaching and research experiences include being a clinical instructor at the ISU Veterinary Medicine Teaching Hospital, a veterinary research associate at the ISU Diagnostic Lab in toxicology, a poison specialist at the National Animal Poison Control Center in Illinois and a resident in small animal oncology at the University of Illinois.

Dr. Graham has published extensive articles ranging from the diagnosis treatment of soft tissue sarcomas to the effectiveness of various drug treatments for cancer.

Dr. Ronald W. Griffith from the Microbiology, Immunology, and Preventive Medicine (MIPM) Department received his DVM from Michigan State University and later completed his masters and PhD in veterinary microbiology at Iowa State University.

Since completing his PhD, Dr. Griffith has worked at the Department of Medical Microbiology at Stanford University School of Medicine and the Department of Veterinary Microbiology at Iowa State University. The past eleven years he has been a professor in the MIPM Department at Iowa State.

He teaches six different courses in the MIPM curriculum and works with several graduate students.

Dr. Griffith’s work has been published in journals, including several in The American Journal of Veterinary Research and Infection and Immunity.

1996 Carl J. Norden Distinguished Teacher Award

The winner of the 1996 Carl J. Norden Distinguished Teacher Award was Dr. David F. Merkley, Professor of Veterinary Clinical Sciences at Iowa State.

Dr. Merkley teaches several classes and manages the surgical caseload. He develops and implements the senior Ground Rounds Seminar series, in addition to being the faculty oversight member for the senior thesis paper program. Each activity incorporates approximately 100 students.

He has been conducive in providing the seminars to practitioners in Iowa through the use of the Iowa Communications Network (ICN). Dr. Merkley has been integral in the review of surgery instruction to students. He has produced over 40 videotapes capturing surgical experiences on canine and feline topics.

Dr. Merkley previously won the Norden Distinguished Teaching Award in 1979 while at Michigan State University.