Notes from the Chair,

Greetings and welcome back to the department in 2012. I hope everyone had a good holiday and best wishes for the New Year. Just before the holiday, we had a faculty retreat to address a number of topics important for the future of the department. We only retreated to the fourth floor so it wasn't an exotic destination, but it was very nice to look over Johnston Green. We met over two half days and the discussion was facilitated by an external consultant. There are a number of initiatives addressing issues of our undergraduate and graduate teaching programs, research and our relationship with the Animal Health Laboratory. Over the next couple of years various working groups and departmental committees will be addressing these topics. One of our initiatives is to form a Poultry Health Research Network. This will be part of the college's integrated plan which will be going forward for review by the provost in February. Dr. Shayan Sharif will be the champion for this initiative. The faculty also committed to filling our one remaining open faculty position with an avian person having potential to develop a vibrant research program and able to support our graduate pathology training.

Also prior to the holiday, our internal review of our graduate program was completed. External reviewers have been selected and a site visit is being planned for February. I’d like to thank Dr. Krys Grodecki for helping us with gathering and collating information from questionnaires, the administrative staff for help in gathering data and putting tables together, and grad students and faculty for taking the time to respond to my requests to complete the questionnaires and for their readiness to edit and comment on the report.

Finally, I'd like to offer a hearty welcome to Byram Bridle who has just joined the department as a viral immunologist. Byram has particular expertise in oncolytic viruses in cancer treatment. He is keen to collaborate and already has connections with faculty inside and outside of the department including the Animal Cancer Centre. thanks, R

The department was well represented at this years ACVP conference in Nashville, Tennessee. Dorothee Bienzle gave a session seminar entitled “Histology of bone marrow” and Tony Hayes session seminar title was “Innate Immunity and Inflammatory Disease”. Both sessions had a large attendance and were over subscribed.

Pat Turner developed a distance education training program for laboratory animal vets that combines online training with applied training at regional training sites across Canada. This program was developed in 2004 and has over 40 graduates from Canada, Israel, Australia, Mexico and China. The purpose of this program is to provide entry level knowledge and skills development to lab animal vets to assist them to meet their clinical and regulatory functions within research facilities. A program was developed for the US in 2008 and she is working with vets in Latin America and China to develop programs for those regions. The Bull Fellowship funding will be used to support training sessions for applied placement instructors in these regions.

New Graduate Student

Welcome to new graduate student Kristin Bondo who is starting a PhD program with Claire Jardine.

Graduate Defenses & Reminders

- Financial Need Assessment forms are due to Student Financial Services by Tues. Jan. 10th.
- Graduate Students that are paying your own tuition, payment is due Fri. Jan. 13th. If you are paying by debit, please make sure Student Financial Services will have your payment before the due date to avoid any late fees. (It takes two business days to clear).
- Add period ends Fri. Jan. 13th. Check on WebAdvisor and make sure that you are registered in your courses.
- Last day to drop two-semester courses (W) is Fri. Jan. 13th.
• OVC Award applications are due to Donna Kangas by Fri. Jan. 13th at 4:00 p.m.
• Graduate Student Evaluation Reports for Fall 2011 are due to the Donna Kangas by Mon. Jan. 30th.

Pathobiology Seminar Series
[Fridays at 11:00 AM in Room 1810 unless otherwise noted.]

Fri. Jan. 6th, Frances Sharon, Molecular and Cellular Biology, UofG, “Trafficking in drugs: the P-glycoprotein efflux pump”.

Fri. Jan. 27th, Melanie Ammerbach, PhD Candidate Seminar, “Proteomics of immunodeficiency viruses”.

Events

Wed. Jan. 18, Rumour Mill, All faculty, staff and students are invited to attend the winter 2012 Rumour Mill. President Alastair Summerlee and provost Maureen Mancuso will host a public forum, providing an opportunity for the University community to separate fact from fiction regarding information circulating around campus, 12:00 pm, UC Room 103.

Thurs. Jan. 19th, BetterPlanet Speaker Series, The BetterPlanet Speaker Series presents a talk by U of G president AlastairSummerlee called "Supporting Education in the Refugee Camps in Kenya." He will discuss the challenges facing education, the impact of the famine in the Horn of Africa and how people can help. The talk will be podcast. 12:00 pm. UC Room 103.

Fri. Jan. 20th, A Dialogue on Civil Society: re-imagining the role of the University. Guest speakers include: Paul Davidson, President, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada; Budd Hall, Global Alliance for Community Engaged Scholarship; and Alastair Summerlee, President, University of Guelph. There will also be a student discussion panel. To register for this exciting event, please go to: http://civilsocietyguelph.eventbrite.com; 8:30 am to 2 p.m. at the John Eccles Centre.

Fri. Jan. 27th, Animal Tracking Course, Arboretum. In this full day program, which includes an outdoor component, you will learn how to study the tracks and signs of Ontario wildlife. Each participant will receive a copy of The Mammals of the Arboretum booklet, which includes many tracks; Fee: $75, For more information visit www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum, time: 9:00 am, J.C. Taylor Nature Interpretive Centre.

Jan. 30-Feb. 3, Global Vets Silent Auction, outside the OVC cafeteria, 1715, everyday 12:30-1:30.

Notices

The University is a fragrance free environment, please refrain from wearing perfumes or colognes at work [this includes both men and women].

Next Departmental Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 26, 2012 at 12:30 p.m. in room 1817.

Garbage Note: Please make sure that you take all food garbage from your office out to the kitchenettes as garbage containers are only cleaned out once a week, the kitchenette garbage is cleaned daily. We also have a compost in each kitchenettes (empty yogurt containers, unfinished lattes, fermenting fruity leftovers) should be discarded in the kitchenette garbage cans.

Major Holidays for upcoming year. HREO website lists the major holy days of obligation for a number of religions for 2012. The URL is: http://www.uoguelph.ca/hre/hr/hrholydays.shtml. If you have any questions contact Fernande Allen at x53275 or at f.allen@hre.uoguelph.ca.

Graduate Student News

Workshops at Teaching Support Services

Mon. Jan 9, TAAC Winter TA Orientation, The Teaching Assistant Advisory Council in conjunction with the Centre for Open Learning and Educational Support and the Learning Services will explore strategies and resources to ensure TA's have a good start to their winter teaching appointments and will cover: getting prepared for your first class; learner centeredness; and promoting active learning. 9:00 am - 12:30 pm, Science Commons, 3rd Floor McLaughlin Library.

GSLI WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

The Graduate Student Learning Initiative (GSLI) offers free workshops for graduate students each semester. Below are the upcoming workshops for the period from Monday, January 16th through until Friday, January 27th. Registration for any of these course can be found at http://www.uoguelph.ca/studentaffairs/reg/index.cfm?category_id=70. If you have any questions please contact the GSLI coordinator, Maryann Kope, at mkope@uoguelph.ca.

1. Research and Project Management (RPM): Introduction
2. Brown Bag Lunch on Research Ethics
3. The Student-Advisor Relationship
4. Research and Project Management (RPM: Research Integrity)
5. Brain Food: The Ultimate Power Lunch Series-Formulating Your Research Question and Thesis Plan