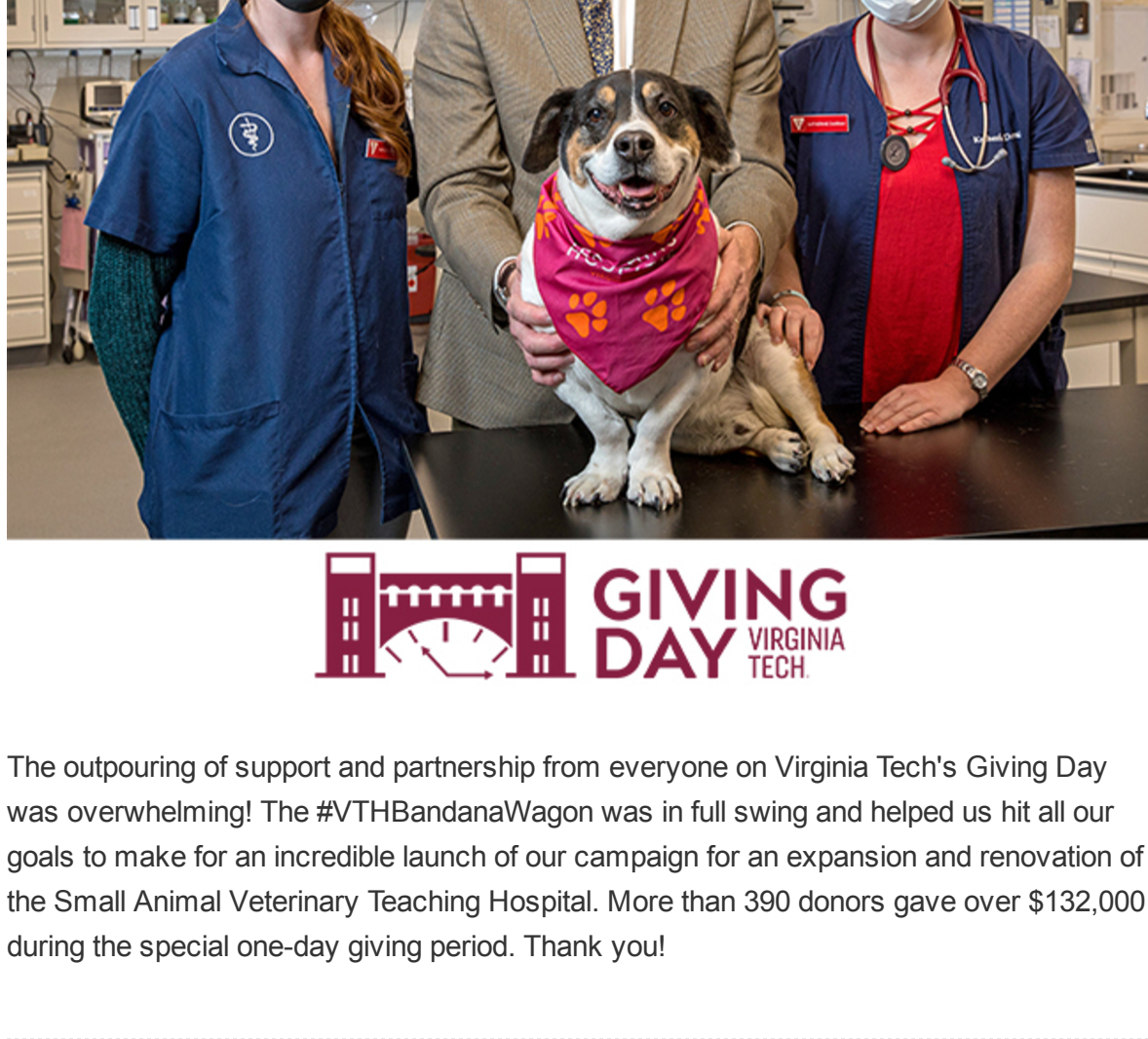


Vet Med News

FEBRUARY 2022

An outpouring of community support for Giving Day



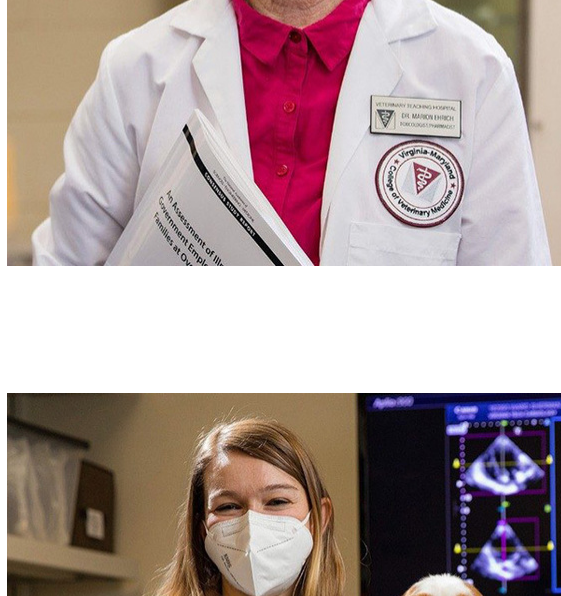
The outpouring of support and partnership from everyone on Virginia Tech's Giving Day was overwhelming! The #VTHBandanaWagon was in full swing and helped us hit all our goals to make for an incredible launch of our campaign for an expansion and renovation of the Small Animal Veterinary Teaching Hospital. More than 390 donors gave over \$132,000 during the special one-day giving period. Thank you!

Around the College



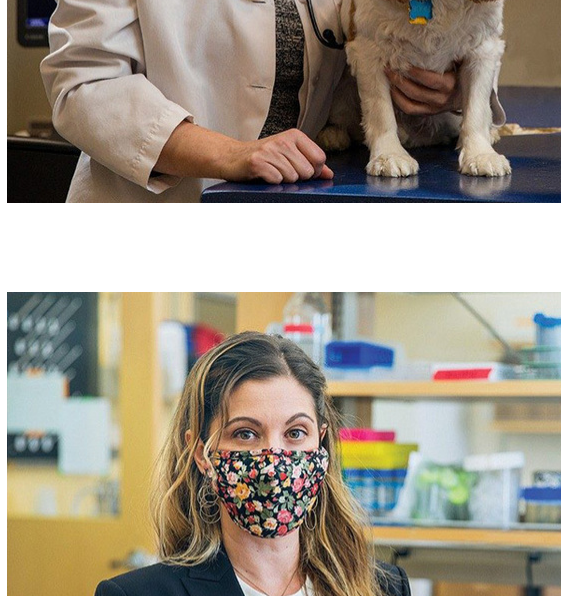
Open House

Please join us Saturday, March 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at our Annual Open House for a behind-the-scenes look at our college! The event is free and open to the public. No registration is required, but attendees interested in tours are encouraged to register before the event on our website. All ages are welcome.



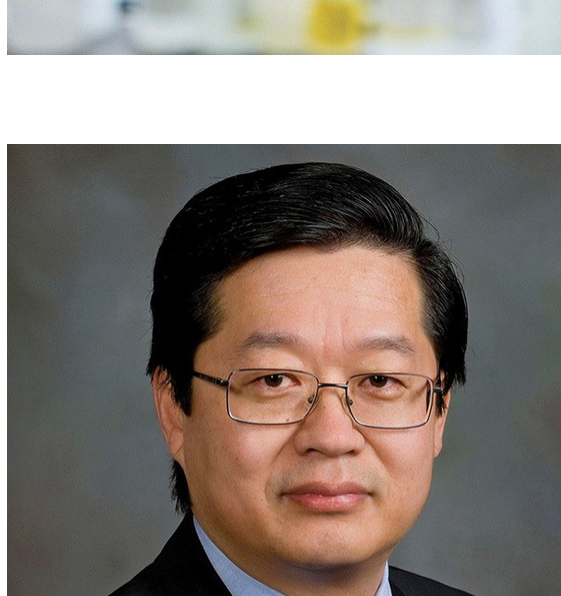
Professor emerita participated in National Academy of Sciences' Havana syndrome report

As part of a group of experts gathered to contribute to a report on Havana syndrome for the National Academy of Sciences, [Marion Ehrlich](#), professor emerita of pharmacology and toxicology, is working to provide information for the United States government on health problems being reported by US diplomats, intelligence officers, and their families in Havana, Cuba and other locations around the world.



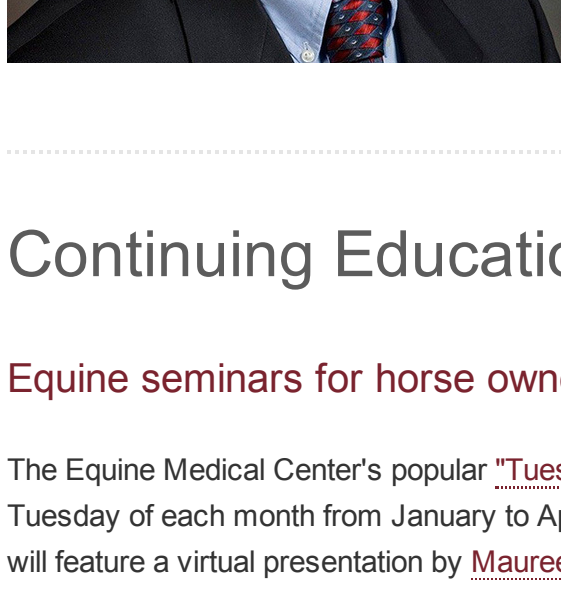
Falling in love with the heart: Veterinary Ph.D. candidate wins Young Investigator Award

[Alessandra Franchini](#), a Ph.D. candidate in small animal cardiology, is awarded the 2021 Young Investigator Award for the best original study published in the Journal of Veterinary Cardiology over a two-year period, after analyzing a spreadsheet that details six years' worth of cardiac-related health information on over 6,000 dogs with mitral valve disease.



Virginia Tech professor lands two grants for the study of brain trauma

[Michelle Theus](#), an associate professor of molecular and cellular neurobiology in the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology, recently secured two grants totaling nearly \$4.5 million from the National Institute of Health for research related to traumatic brain injuries.



Virginia Tech researchers developing a new vaccine for a swine coronavirus

With a four-year, \$630,000 grant from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Mike Zhang and co-principal investigator [X.J. Meng](#) are researching a nanoparticle-based vaccine to curb a highly contagious coronavirus among swine.

Continuing Education

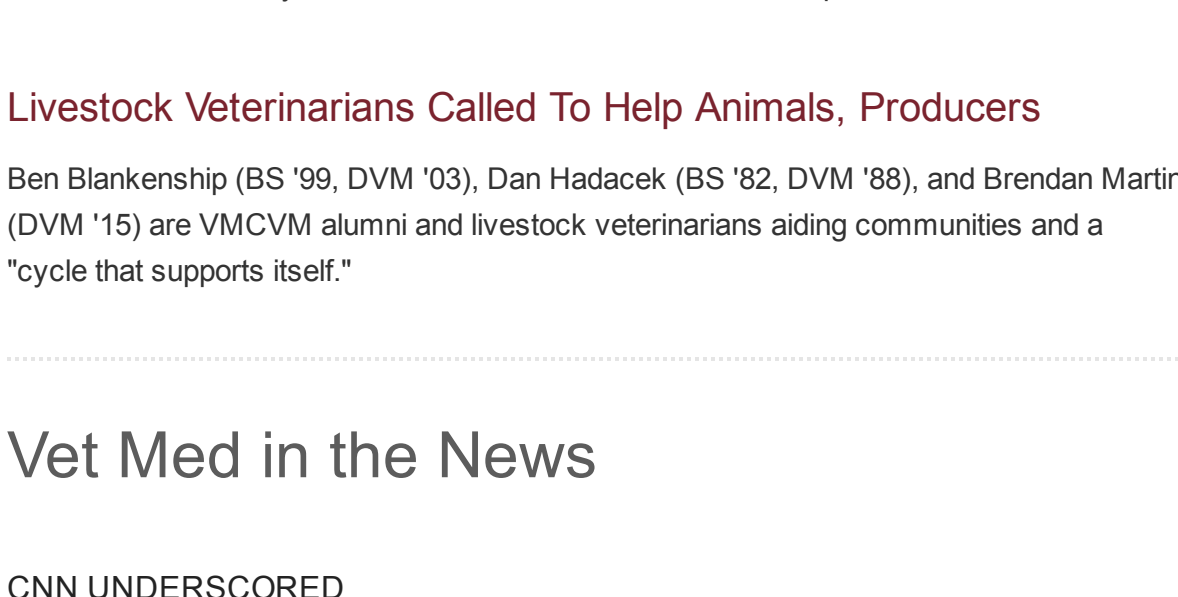
Equine seminars for horse owners

The Equine Medical Center's popular "[Tuesday Talks](#)" program, held on the second Tuesday of each month from January to April, kicked off on Jan. 11. The March 8 seminar will feature a virtual presentation by [Maureen Kelleher](#), clinical assistant professor of sports medicine and surgery, who will discuss the new technology available to diagnose and treat tendon, ligament, bone, and joint injuries in the horse. The talk will cover diagnostics, such as MRI and CT, then move on to treatments, such as PRP, ACS, and MSC.

[Register to attend](#)

Vet Med Alumni

[VA-MD Vet Med Alumni online](#)→



There was a great turnout at the VMCVM Alumni Social for the VVMA's Virginia Veterinary Conference! It's always a wonderful time to reconnect and swap fun vet school memories.

Livestock Veterinarians Called To Help Animals, Producers

Ben Blankenship (BS '99, DVM '03), Dan Hadacek (BS '82, DVM '88), and Brendan Martin (DVM '15) are VMCVM alumni and livestock veterinarians aiding communities and a "cycle that supports itself."

Vet Med in the News

CNN UNDERScoreD

[Traveling with your cat or dog? Here's what you need to know, according to experts](#)

EATING WELL

6 Ways to Lighten Your Pet's Environmental Paw Print

[Mark Freeman](#), clinical assistant professor, Small Animal Clinical Sciences

NATURE

An open science study of ageing in companion dogs

Dog Aging Project

[Audrey Ruple](#), associate professor in the department of Population Health Sciences, is part of a team working on the Dog Aging Project. This long-term longitudinal study focuses on aging in tens of thousands of companion dogs in order to identify genetic, environmental, and other factors that contribute to a healthy life.

THE HORSE

EMS and PPID: What's the Same, What's the Difference?

Pituitary pars intermedia (PPID) and equine metabolic syndrome (EMS) are distinct diseases and fairly common conditions in the horse. This article, written by Erica Larson after attending a "Tuesday Talks" webinar presented by [Liz MacDonald](#), clinical instructor in equine medicine at the college, explains diagnostic and treatment options and how clinical signs for the two conditions can overlap.

THE HORSE

The Never-Ending Hoof Abscess

[Travis Burns](#), chief of farrier services, was one of two experts consulted to answer the question of why some hoof abscesses resolve themselves quickly with minimal intervention while others linger and may become as potentially life-threatening as other medical issues causing three-legged lameness.

DVM 360

Veterinarian caring for animals sent to space is honored by LSU

[David Moore](#), associate professor of veterinary medicine, has sent patients into space on a NASA mission and is the 2021 LSU Distinguished Alumnus. Moore was veterinarian for the rats and squirrel monkeys that flew in the Spacelab 3 mission, ensuring regulatory compliance during the mission.

DVM 360

Making room at the table

Tierra Price, DVM, a 2020 graduate of the college, created the BlackDVM Network in 2018 in order to counteract being unable to find mentors or others in the veterinary profession who look like aspiring Black veterinarians, which often had created doubt about whether the goal itself was achievable.

EVESHAM OBSERVER

GIRL POWER: How to encourage your daughters into STEM

[Vanessa Oakes](#), Ph.D. candidate in biomedicine and clinical instructor in anatomic pathology at the college, adds her voice to other women across science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields to share their advice on how parents can positively encourage daughters into these fields.

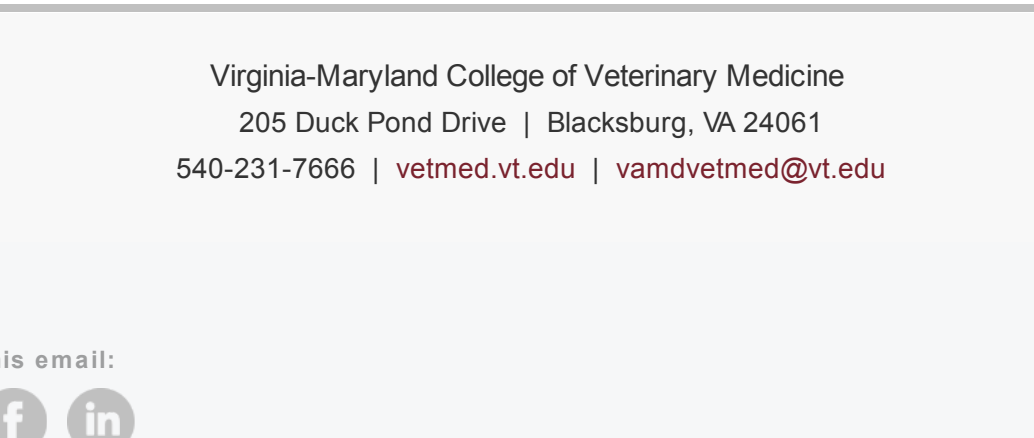
VETERINARY INFORMATION NETWORK

Should education become a veterinary specialty?

[Rachael Carpenter](#), a part-time clinical instructor in anesthesiology, adds her thoughts to whether education and teaching should be added to the nearly 50 specialties existing in veterinary medicine. That question is before the American Board of Veterinary Specialties, through a proposal to create an organization that would set standards for advanced teaching education and certify those who achieve the standards.

AVMA NEWS

Veterinarians tell a different story - Stories of triumph and resiliency shared at AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference



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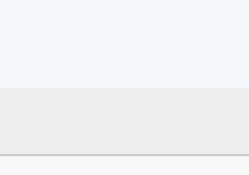


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