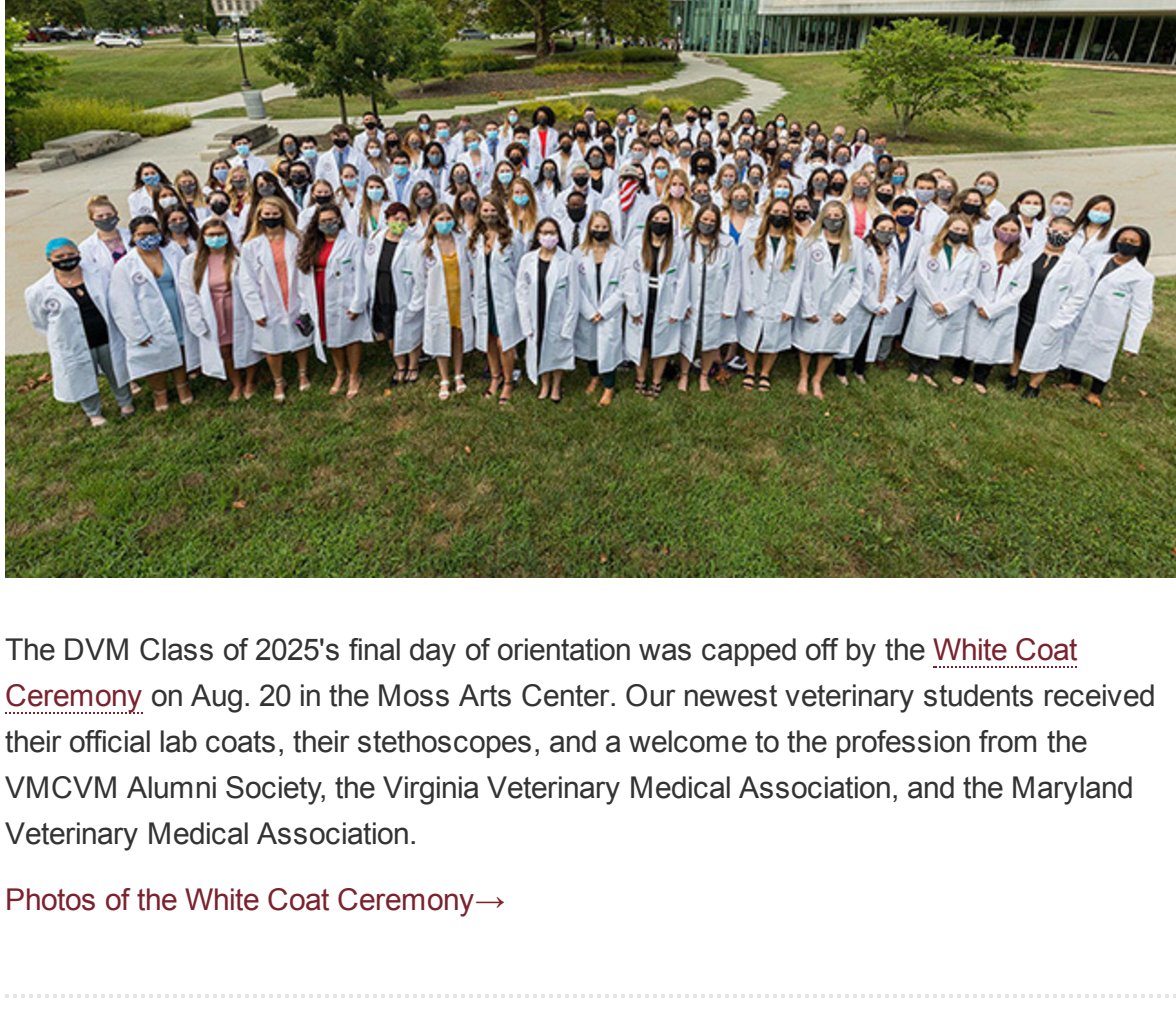


## Vet Med News

AUGUST 2021

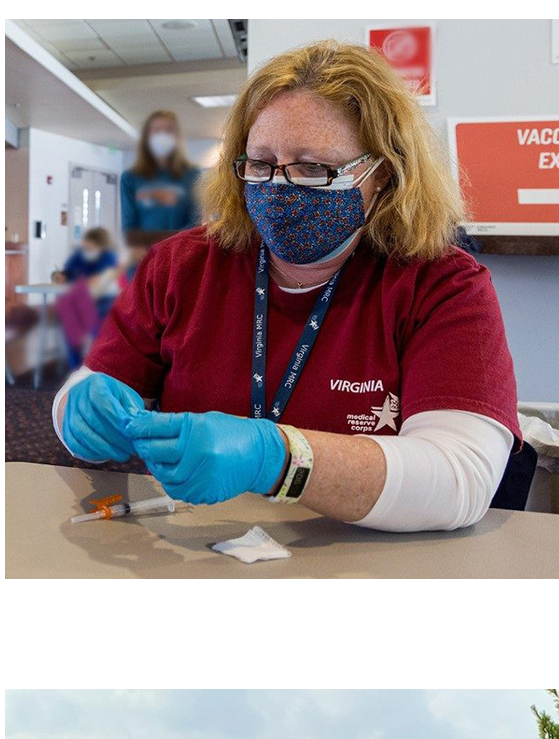
### VA-MD Vet Med welcomes the DVM Class of 2025!



The DVM Class of 2025's final day of orientation was capped off by the [White Coat Ceremony](#) on Aug. 20 in the Moss Arts Center. Our newest veterinary students received their official lab coats, their stethoscopes, and a welcome to the profession from the VMCVM Alumni Society, the Virginia Veterinary Medical Association, and the Maryland Veterinary Medical Association.

[Photos of the White Coat Ceremony→](#)

## Around the College



### Latest Tracks Magazine profiles commitment to VA-MD Vet Med

Featuring stories about a sheep farm that has long been a destination for hands-on learning for the college's DVM students, and ongoing collaborative research at the [Animal Cancer Care and Research Center](#) to refine a unique approach to treating canine osteosarcoma, the latest edition of [Tracks Magazine](#) is available online. To request a print copy, please contact [cvmadvancement@vt.edu](mailto:cvmadvancement@vt.edu).



### VA-MD Vet Med vaccinators help create new normal

As Virginia Tech prepared for an in-person fall semester, several VA-MD Vet Med faculty, students, and staff jumped in to vaccinate members of the local community. "I get a lot of people saying, 'I did not even feel it, you did it already, you are really good at this,' so I tell them a little secret: 'I am a veterinarian, and my patients bite so I have to be quick,'" said [Rachael Carpenter](#), clinical instructor of anesthesiology in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences.



### Mobile vaccine clinics make COVID-19 vaccines more accessible

The mobile vaccine clinics are a partnership among the [COVID-19 Crushers](#), New River Health District, Virginia Department of Health, Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, and New River Valley Public Health Task Force that aims to make the vaccinations easy, safe, and accessible while providing vaccine education to the community.



### What is a variant, how does it form, and why is it harmful?

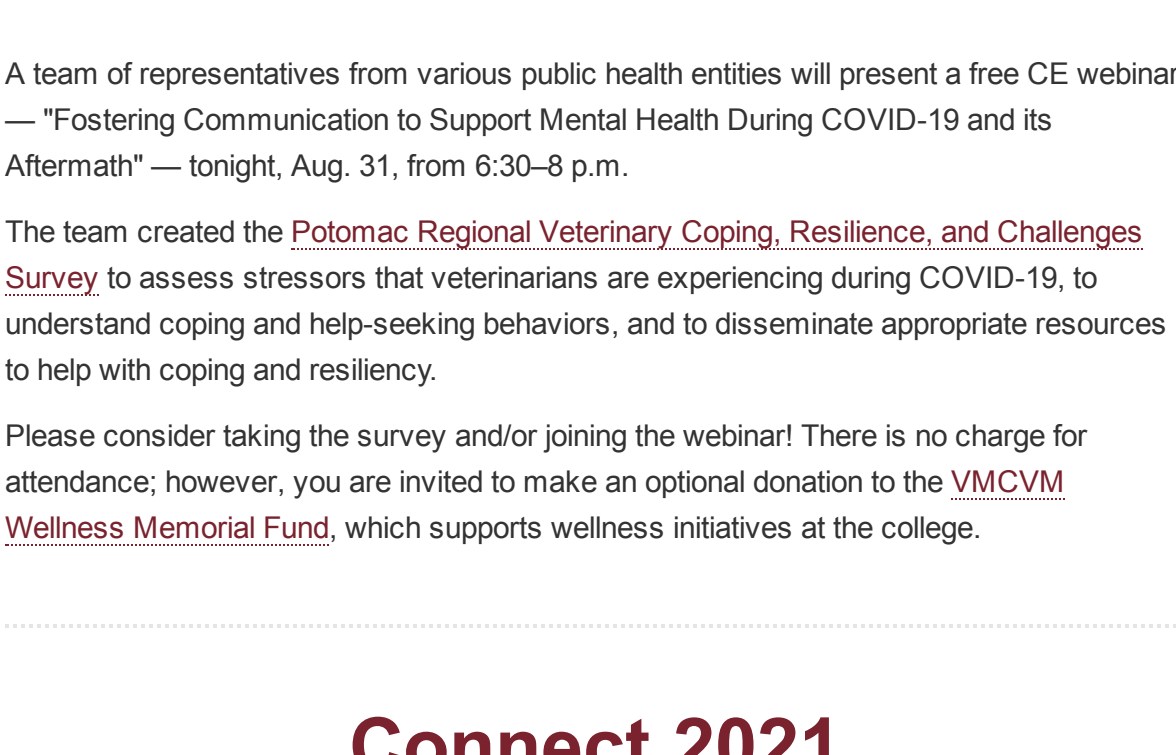
Associate Vice President for Scholarly Integrity and Research Compliance [Lisa M. Lee](#), a research professor in the Department of Population Health Sciences, explains how COVID-19 variants form and why we should be concerned about them. An epidemiologist, bioethicist, and ethics educator, Lee has worked in public health and ethics for more than 25 years, including 14 years at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



### College receives grant for theriogenology residency

A prestigious, highly competitive grant from the American Kennel Club, the AKC Canine Health Foundation, and the Theriogenology Foundation has allowed the [Theriogenology Service](#) to fund a new resident: veterinarian Nicole Sugai. Over three years, Sugai will pursue an M.S. in biomedical and veterinary sciences and prepare for board certification through the American College of Theriogenologists.

### Free CE webinar **TONIGHT** at 6:30 p.m.!



Join us for a CE Webinar

**August 31**  
6:30-8 p.m.

"Fostering Communication to Support Mental Health during COVID-19 and its Aftermath"

A team of representatives from various public health entities will present a free CE webinar — "Fostering Communication to Support Mental Health During COVID-19 and its Aftermath" — tonight, Aug. 31, from 6:30–8 p.m.

The team created the [Potomac Regional Veterinary Coping, Resilience, and Challenges Survey](#) to assess stressors that veterinarians are experiencing during COVID-19, to understand coping and help-seeking behaviors, and to disseminate appropriate resources to help with coping and resiliency.

Please consider taking the survey and/or joining the webinar! There is no charge for attendance; however, you are invited to make an optional donation to the [VMCVM Wellness Memorial Fund](#), which supports wellness initiatives at the college.

## Connect 2021

Sept. 17-18

Mentor Program • Career Mixer & Match • Reunion • Continuing Education



Students • Alumni • Practitioners

Join alumni, faculty, staff, students, and practitioners to meet and share the collective interest and mutual benefit of mentorship, career opportunities, continuing education, and reunion celebrations!

[Learn more and register →](#)

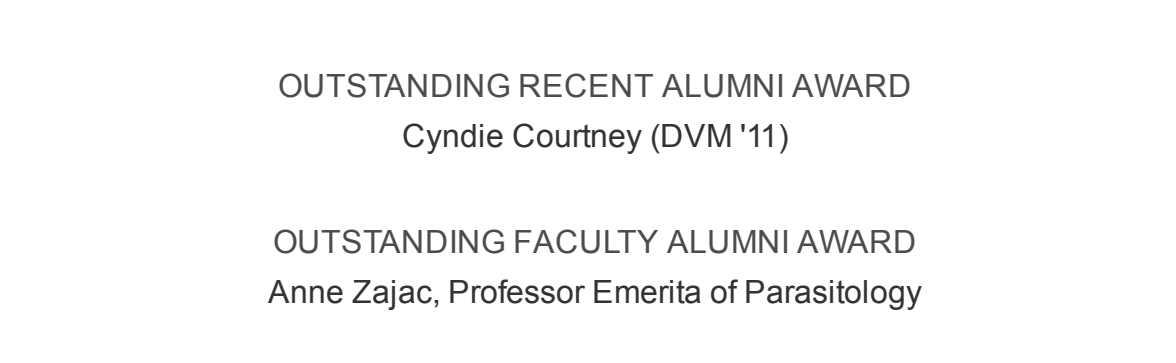
## Vet Med Alumni

[VA-MD Vet Med Alumni online→](#)



Jesper Lorenzten (DVM '04), president of the Alumni Society Board of Directors, welcomes the incoming DVM Class of 2025 at the White Coat Ceremony on Aug. 20 in the Moss Arts Center.

### 2021 VMCVM Alumni Awards recipients



Drs. Tim Fan, Cyndie Courtney, and Anne Zajac

Check out this [great story about our 2021 Alumni Awards recipients!](#)

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT ALUMNI AWARD

Tim Fan (DVM '95)

OUTSTANDING RECENT ALUMNI AWARD

Cyndie Courtney (DVM '11)

OUTSTANDING FACULTY ALUMNI AWARD

Anne Zajac, Professor Emerita of Parasitology

All three will present CE lectures and will receive their awards at [Connect 2021](#) on Saturday, Sept. 18. We hope to see you there!

## Vet Med in the News

### UVA TODAY

#### One vaccine to rule them all

[X.J. Meng](#), University Distinguished Professor of Molecular Virology, Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology

### IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

#### International Visibility: Dr. Jeffrey Wilcke

[Jeffrey Wilcke](#), Professor Emeritus of Veterinary Medical Informatics and Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology, Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology

### PULMONARY HYPERTENSION NEWS

#### New AHA-funded project at Virginia Tech looks to RNA for therapies

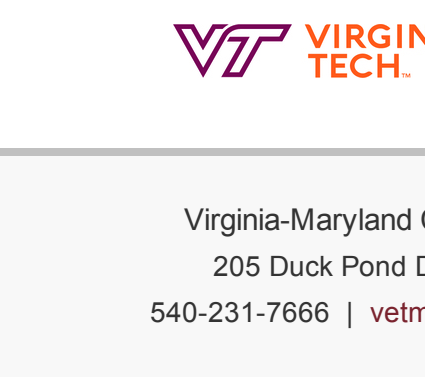
Yassine Sassi, assistant professor, Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology

### CULPEPER STAR-EXPONENT

#### Ask the vets: Here's how to choose among pet foods

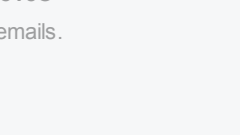
**GIVE to VA-MD VET MED**

*Your support helps us advance knowledge, improve health, and save lives.*



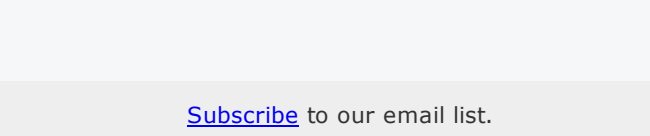
We're celebrating  
40 years!  
VA-MD Vet Med's first class  
matriculated in 1980.

## STAY CONNECTED



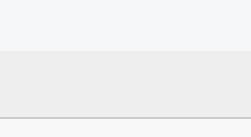
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