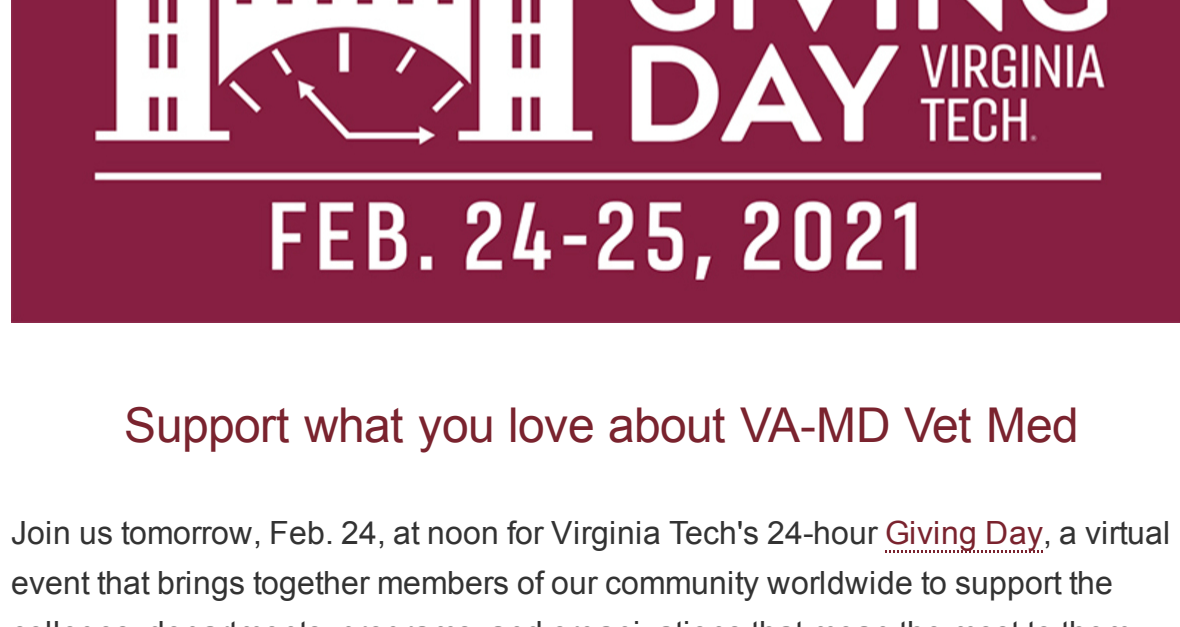


Vet Med News

FEBRUARY 2021



Support what you love about VA-MD Vet Med

Join us tomorrow, Feb. 24, at noon for Virginia Tech's 24-hour [Giving Day](#), a virtual event that brings together members of our community worldwide to support the colleges, departments, programs, and organizations that mean the most to them.

Every gift, no matter the size, will help VA-MD Vet Med and its students, faculty, and programs. We are especially grateful for the generous alumni, faculty, and friends of the college who have pledged gifts that will be unlocked by donor participation of any amount.

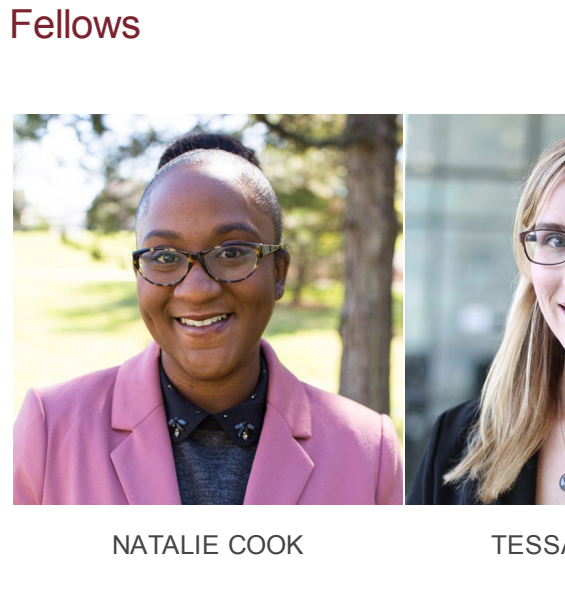
Thank you for all you do for our college. See you soon!

Around the College



On the front lines of public health

All students enrolled in the college's Master of Public Health program are trained to work with the Medical Reserve Corps, a volunteer group that has been especially important to the New River Health District at COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites. Established nationally in 2002 in response to the 2001 terrorist attacks, the corps helps local health departments and districts across the country with public health initiatives and other needs.



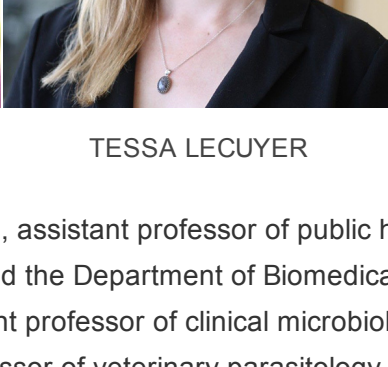
Clark named interim department head of large animal clinical sciences

[Sherrie Clark](#) (BS '92, DVM '96), professor of theriogenology, has been named interim head of the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, effective Jan. 1. A VA-MD Vet Med faculty member since 2011 and a diplomate in the American College of Theriogenologists, Clark specializes in advanced reproductive techniques in a variety of species, focusing on conditions that cause infertility.

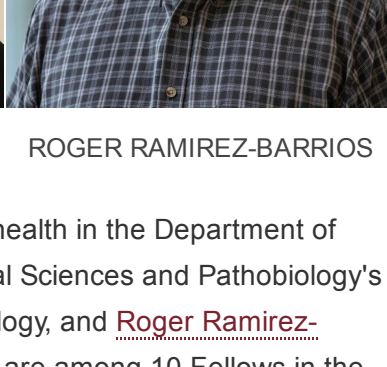
VA-MD Vet Med faculty named 2021 CALS Global Initiative Fellows



NATALIE COOK

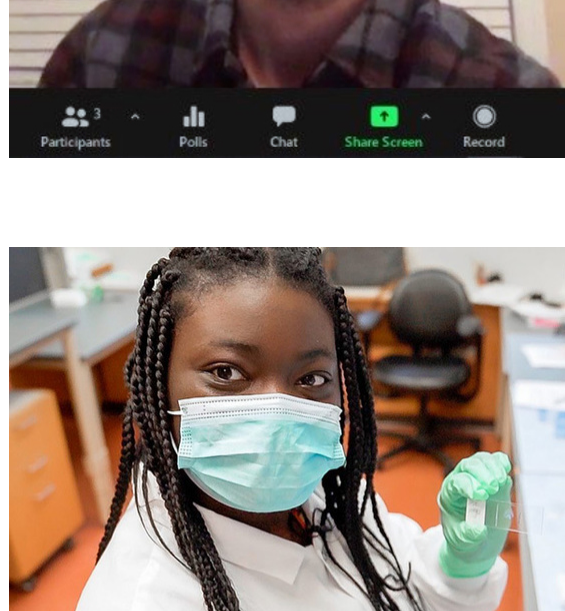


TESSA LECUYER



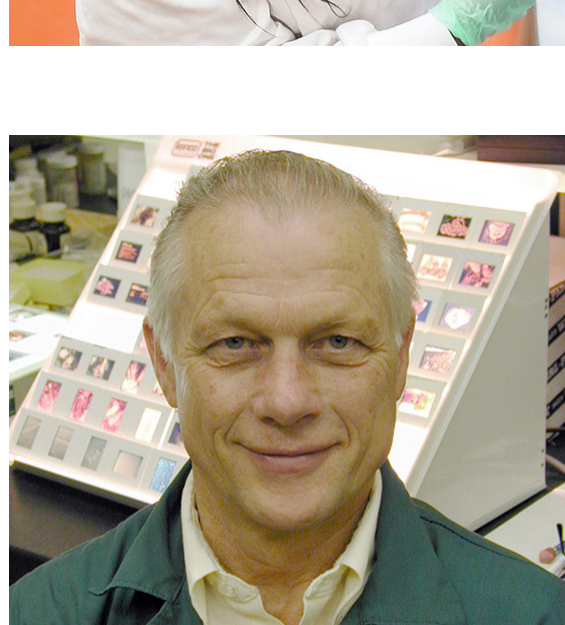
ROGER RAMIREZ-BARRIOS

[Natalie Cook](#) (MS '15, PhD '19), assistant professor of public health in the Department of Population Health Sciences; and the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology's [Tessa LeCuyer](#), clinical assistant professor of clinical microbiology, and [Roger Ramirez-Barrios](#), clinical associate professor of veterinary parasitology, are among 10 Fellows in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' cohort-based faculty development program that will work with partners in East Africa.



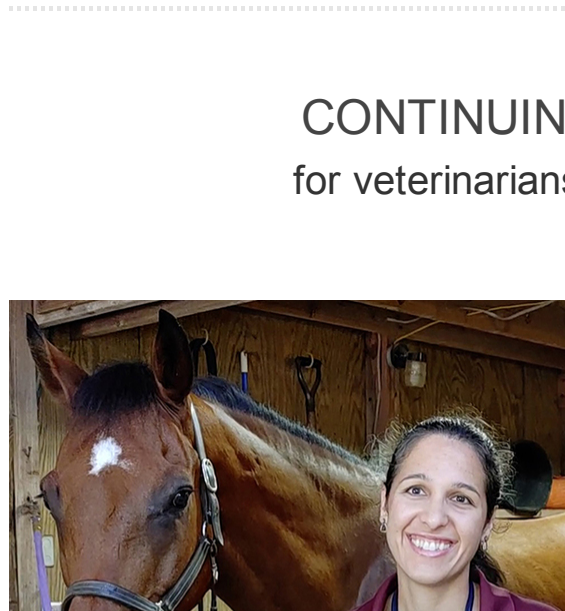
Working through challenges of virtual experiential learning

Brady Blauvelt, a creative technologies major in the School of Visual Arts, is collaborating with VA-MD Vet Med to create a unique desktop computer application to help veterinary students learn anatomy. "Using computer and scanning technology, we have created scale models of dog, horse, and cow skeletons, plus their major internal organs," Blauvelt said.



Student researcher earns NIMH diversity supplement grant

Clinical neuroscience and psychology undergraduate Niesha Savory — a mentee of [Shannon Farris](#), assistant professor of neuroscience in the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology — was awarded a Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH).

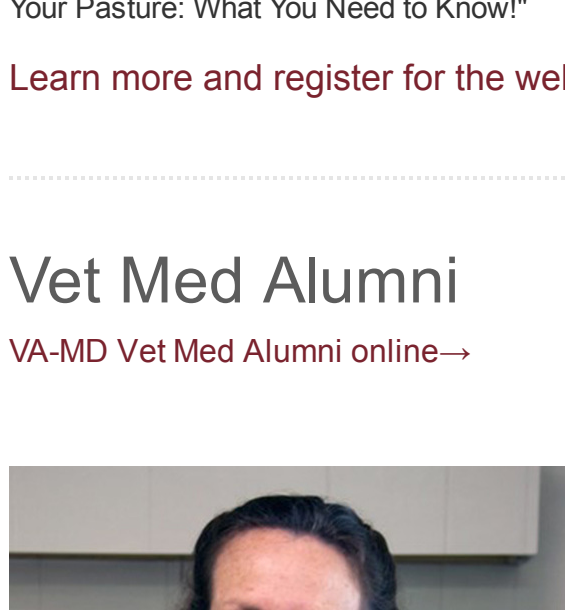


In memoriam: Calvert T. Larsen, associate professor emeritus

Calvert T. Larsen, associate professor emeritus of large animal clinical sciences, died on Jan. 24 at age 87. An avian health and disease research specialist, Larsen arrived at Virginia Tech in 1979 as one of the first faculty members to join the new Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine a year prior to the matriculation of the college's charter class.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

for veterinarians and animal lovers



Equine Lecture Series

Join VA-MD Vet Med faculty for the remaining presentations in the virtual Equine Lecture Series held on successive Tuesdays, Feb. 23–March 9, at 6:30 p.m. The series offers six credits of continuing education credit.

Once registered, participants will receive a confirmation email containing the link and passcode to access the webinars.

[Register for all sessions→](#)

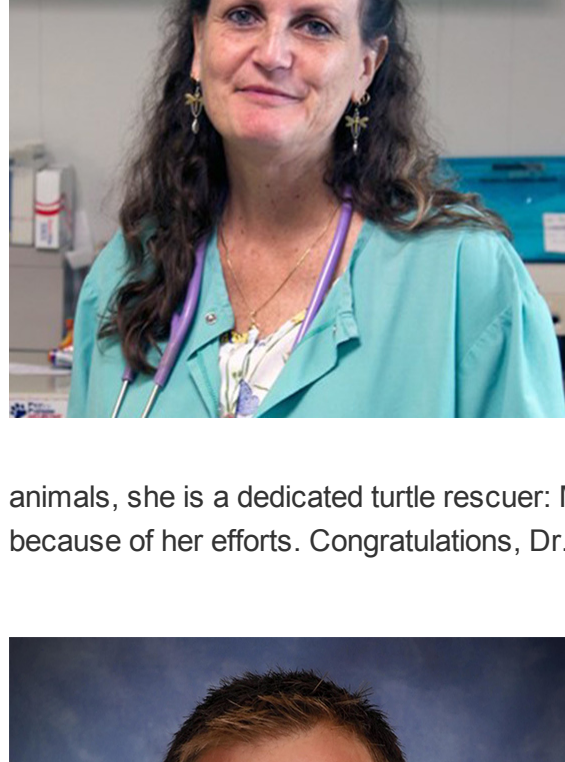
Equine Medical Center's "Tuesday Talks" for horse owners

Presented on the second Tuesday of the month until April, the Equine Medical Center's free "Tuesday Talks" will be held at 7 p.m. on March 9 and April 13. Typically conducted on site, the presentations and Q&A sessions are being offered as a series of webinars due to COVID-19 restrictions. The remaining topics are "Equine Insurance" and "Toxic Plants in Your Pasture: What You Need to Know!"

[Learn more and register for the webinars→](#)

Vet Med Alumni

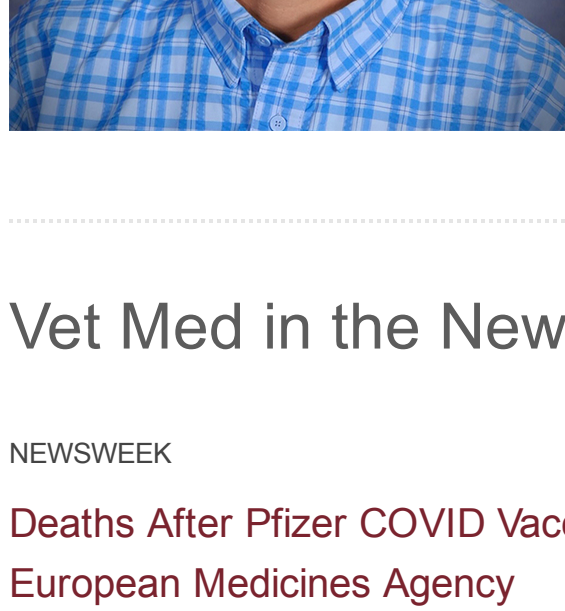
[VA-MD Vet Med Alumni online→](#)



Alumna recognized with NACA award

Darnice Pettigrew (DVM '90), owner and operator of North Fork Veterinary Hospital in Timberville, Virginia, received the 2020 Diane Lane Memorial Award for outstanding volunteer service from the National Animal Care and Control Association (NACA). Pettigrew volunteers each week to provide shelter exams to animals at the Rockingham-Harrisonburg SPCA, serves as its board president, and assists with cases. When not helping the community's

animals, she is a dedicated turtle rescuer: Many baby turtles have made it back to sea because of her efforts. Congratulations, Dr. Pettigrew!



Alumnus joins board of trustees

Matthew Iager (DVM '96) has joined the Holstein Foundation Board of Trustees, which oversees the direction of the foundation's youth and young adult education and leadership development programs. A dairy veterinarian specializing in embryo transfer with Mid-Maryland Dairy Veterinarians in Hagerstown, Maryland, Iager owns and operates MD-West-View Genetics, a certified donor facility that exports embryos worldwide.

Vet Med in the News

NEWSWEEK

Deaths After Pfizer COVID Vaccines Not Linked to Shots, Says European Medicines Agency

[Coy Allen](#), associate professor of inflammatory disease

MIRROR

'Knowing how long immunity lasts is a key battleground in the fight against Covid'

[Coy Allen](#), associate professor of inflammatory disease

NBC NEWS

The 14 best dog beds of 2021, according to experts

[Virginia Corrigan](#) (MPH '16), assistant professor of community practice

JAVMA NEWS

Protein in soil bacteria could help fight worms

[Anne Zajac](#), professor of parasitology

BEEF MAGAZINE

6 tips for properly vaccinating beef cattle

[John Currin](#) (BS '90, DVM '93), clinical associate professor, production management medicine

AGRINEWS

From gate to plate: Proper vaccine administration can help boost consumer confidence in beef

[John Currin](#) (BS '90, DVM '93), clinical associate professor, production management medicine

PURDUE UNIVERSITY CVM NEWS

New Year Begins with Special Emphasis on Diversity and Inclusion in PVM

[Margie Lee](#) (BS '82, DVM '86), professor, department head, Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology
[Tierra Price](#) (DVM '20, MPH '20)

THE HORSE

Novel Bone Marrow 'Ingredient' To Help Arthritic Horses

[James "Blake" Everett](#) (MS '20)

PROJECT UPLAND MAGAZINE

Cheatgrass: Grass Awns, Hunting Dogs, and Climate Change

[Lindsay Vega](#) (BS '12, DVM '15)

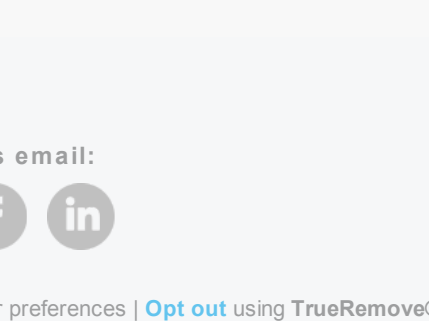
WDBJ

Virginia Tech volunteers in Medical Reserve Corps help on front lines of pandemic

[Sophie Wenzel](#), assistant professor of practice, associate director, Center for Public Health Practice and Research
[Kat Drinkard](#), MPH student

GIVE TO VA-MD VET MED

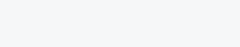
Your support helps us advance knowledge, improve health, and save lives.



We're celebrating
40 years!

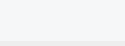
*VA-MD Vet Med's first class
matriculated in 1980.*

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