

The Chair's Holiday Greeting and End of Year Message



This is my ninth end of year message and my third 3-year term as Chair ends on May 31, 2018. As 2017 comes to an end, and we take a few days to enjoy the holiday season with our families and friends, I want to share with you the wish that there may be peace on earth and love in the hearts of all humankind this holiday season and always. As a department, we have a lot to be thankful for.

Wishing you and your families much happiness during the holidays and a Healthy and Prosperous 2018!

Fred Kibenge



Dr. Dave Speare Appointed to Canadian Council on Animal Care Subcommittee



Congratulations to **Dr. Dave Speare** who has been appointed to serve on the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) subcommittee on *Animal Welfare Assessment*.

Dr. Pierre-Yves Daoust Retires from AVC



After 30 years of serving students and wildlife at the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC) as an anatomic pathologist and Professor, **Dr. Pierre-Yves Daoust** will retire at the end of December 2017. Originally from Québec, he received his veterinary degree in 1974 from the Université de Montréal. Following a pathology internship at his alma mater, Dr. Daoust obtained his PhD at the University of Saskatchewan in 1981. Before starting at the AVC in the Department of Pathology & Microbiology in 1987, he worked as a research assistant at the Ontario Veterinary College and a diagnostic pathologist in Alberta. He became board certified as a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists in 1985.

Dr. Daoust has had a busy and successful academic career, publishing over 60 refereed scientific articles, teaching many veterinary courses and supervising graduate students. He has been coordinator of the Atlantic regional centre of the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative (CWHC) since it began in 1992. This organization facilitates critical wildlife disease surveillance, primarily by performing necropsies. Work with the CWHC has required development of a close relationship with government and other agencies. Under Dr. Daoust's conscientious management, the centre has prospered, with increased staff and new information about wildlife diseases obtained. These include identification of bat rabies in a PEI fox in 1993, identification of protozoal trichomoniasis in Maritime songbirds and the recent incursion into our region of white-nose syndrome, a devastating disease of bats.

Because of his extensive scientific knowledge, passion for wildlife and respect for local communities and indigenous cultures, Dr. Daoust has explored and improved the welfare of animals impacted by human activities, including stranding, trapping and harvesting. He observed the seal hunt for many years, has served on related international committees and has improved the welfare of hunted seals. It is no exaggeration to say that he is the Canadian veterinarian who is most experienced and knowledgeable on the welfare issues of this activity. Dr. Daoust has also been involved in many other activities related to wildlife diseases and welfare. While too numerous to list, a recent high profile activity was his significant contribution to the incident report of mortality of North Atlantic right whales in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

When not working, Dr. Daoust enjoys time spent at his country home with his wife, Ann Wheatley. They enjoy travelling, watching movies and taking pride in their adult children, Michel, Dominique and Gabrielle. Buddy, a Labrador retriever, Penelope, a Dachshund, and two cats, Lilly and Ulysse, complete the family. Those who have worked closely with Dr. Daoust can attest to his boundless energy, love of pathology and physical toughness. The latter traits were best illustrated by his initial reluctance to get stitches after a severe hand cut during a whale necropsy because he did not want to miss any findings! His kind support of students will be missed as will his personal integrity and his humble and egalitarian nature. Although Dr. Daoust is officially retired from his university position, we will still have the pleasure of interacting with him. He is as busy as ever with ongoing projects, including activities in the Canadian north.

All the best, Dr. Daoust!

Contributed by Dr. Shelley Burton

Dr. Nicole Kaiser receives Davis-Thompson Award



Congratulations to **Dr. Nicole Kaiser**, second year MVSc/resident in anatomic pathology, who recently received a 2017 Charles Louis Davis and Samuel Wesley Thompson DVM Foundation Award, a trainee award for excellence in diagnostic pathology. She was nominated by the department pathologists and the award was presented in Vancouver, BC, on November 6th at the American College of Veterinary Pathologists/ American Society for Veterinary Clinical Pathology (ACVP/ASVCP) annual meeting. Nicole was among 28 Student Scholarship Awardees from all universities in North America affiliated with The Foundation. For her MVSc project, she is investigating prostaglandin receptor expression in feline oral squamous cell carcinoma using immunohistochemistry, under the supervision of **Dr. Chelsea Martin**.

Congratulations Nicole!

PhD Thesis Defense



Congratulations to **Jordan Poley** who successfully defended his PhD thesis [Transcriptional signatures of sexual selection, stress, and development in salmon lice (*Lepeophtheirus salmonis*)] on December 14, 2017. Jordan was supervised by **Dr. Mark Fast**. **Dr. Dave Speare** chaired the Examination Committee.

Congratulations Jordan!

Welcome to Pathology and Microbiology



We welcome **Amy FitzGerald** who has been hired as a temporary full time Administrative Assistant in the Department of Pathology and Microbiology until January 20, 2018. Amy recently moved to PEI from Ireland where she had over 8 years of administrative and clerical experience working in different programs of the School of Medicine in Trinity College, Dublin. This is one of Europe's oldest and most prestigious universities.

Pathology Training of Small Animal Medicine Residents



Photo: Left to Right - Drs. Lydia Pan, Noel Clancey, Emilia Bourassi, Ellen Milley, Melanie Buote, Cora Gilroy and Shannon Martinson.

The AVC residents in small animal internal medicine (Drs. Emilia Bourassi, Ellen Milley & Lydia Pan) from the Department of Companion Animals enjoyed an intensive week of pathology training from December 4-8, 2017. The clinical pathology sessions were led by **Drs. Shelley Burton, Cora Gilroy and Noel Clancey**. Anatomic pathology training was provided by **Drs. Melanie Buote, Paul Hanna, Shannon Martinson, Chelsea Martin and Andrea Bourque**. This week of intensive training was developed to meet the requirement for time spent with American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP) boarded pathologists in residency programs accredited by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM).

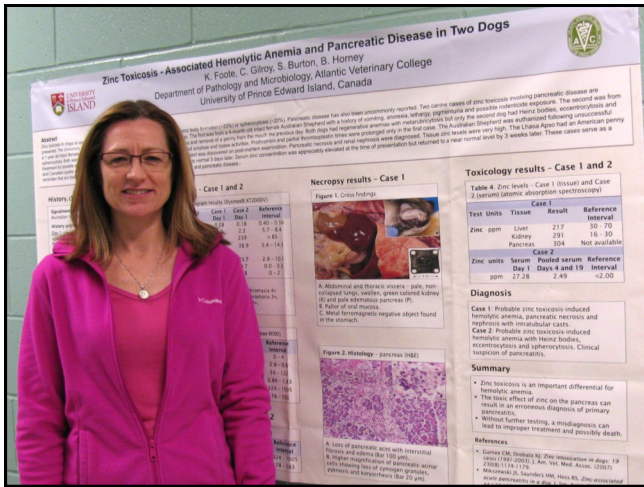
Dr. Shelley Burton was Invited Speaker at Texas A & M University



On September 29, 2017, **Dr. Shelley Burton** gave an invited address to the clinical pathology faculty and residents at Texas A & M University (TAMU) in College Station, Texas. The talk was entitled, "Clinical Pathology at the Atlantic Veterinary College"; it highlighted the department's residency program and the diagnosis of unique Atlantic Canadian diseases. Dr. Burton was hosted by Dr. Mark Johnson, a clinical pathology faculty member at TAMU.

Photo: Dr. Shelley Burton and Dr. Mark Johnson

Dr. Kim Foote Presents at AVCP/ASVCP Annual Meeting



Dr. Kim Foote, a second year clinical pathology resident and MVSc graduate student, had a poster presentation at the American College of Veterinary Pathologists/American Society for Veterinary Clinical Pathology (ACVP/ASVCP) annual meeting. The meeting was held in Vancouver from November 4-8, 2017. Dr. Foote's poster described zinc toxicity associated hemolytic anemia and pancreatic disease in two dogs.

Photo: Dr. Kim Foote.

Bat Week at AVC

In October, **Jordi Segers** and **Tessa McBurney** with the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative Atlantic Region teamed up with AVC's Health and Wellness committee for a joint Halloween and Bat Week event on October 31. In addition to the annual pumpkin carving and costume contests, participants from the AVC had the opportunity to create their own origami bats, enjoy a Bat Week chocolate cake and fruit juices made with bat-dependent ingredients, and learn how bats provide us with food. Bats provide essential



ecological services by consuming large amounts of insect pests that eat our agricultural crops (corn, apples, oranges, potatoes, nuts, etc), by pollinating flowers (blue agave - tequila, cocoa - chocolate), and by distributing seeds (bananas, mangoes, papaya, etc). Without bats, many of these everyday products that we take for granted would be a lot more expensive (e.g., apples) or would not exist at all (tequila). The combined event was a great success. Needless to say, the costume contest was won by a colony of bats and the pumpkin carving contest was won by a 'bat-o-lantern'.

Photo: Jordi Segers as the mad hatter (left) and Tessa McBurney as a little brown bat (right) posing by the Bat Week chocolate cake. Photo by Tammy Muirhead

Dr. Fred Kibenge in Chile to participate in a scientific conference, teach a crash course and launch his new book.

Dr. Fred Kibenge was an invited speaker at the Fish Health Summit, an international conference organized by Cargill and the Center of Biological Applied Investigations (CIBA) in Castro (Chiloé, region), Chile, on November 7-8, 2017. He presented on the topic “Molecular Epidemiology of Piscine orthoreoviruses”.



Details on conference here: <http://www.aqua.cl/2017/11/08/fish-health-summit-expertos-salud-peces-se-tomaron-chiloe/>

Dr. Fred Kibenge was at the University San Sebastian, Patagonia campus, in Puerto Montt, Chile, on November 10-11, 2017, and presented a series of lectures on salmonid viral diseases to graduate students in the Masters of Aquaculture program.



Dr. Fred Kibenge was at the University San Sebastian, Patagonia campus, in Puerto Montt, Chile, on November 10, 2017, to launch his book titled “Aquaculture Virology”, co-edited with Dr. Marcos Godoy, Director of Research at the University of San Sebastian. Aquaculture Virology is published by Academic Press, and covers all virus families and the specific viral diseases of fish, molluscs and crustaceans.



Publications

Kibenge MJT, Wang Y, Morton A, Routledge R, Kibenge FSB. Formal comment on: Piscine reovirus: Genomic and molecular phylogenetic analysis from farmed and wild salmonids collected on the Canada/ US Pacific Coast. PLOS ONE 2017; 10: 1371.

Morton A., Routledge R., Hrushowy S., Kibenge M., Kibenge F. The effect of exposure to farmed salmon on piscine orthoreovirus infection and fitness in wild Pacific salmon in British Columbia, Canada. PLOS ONE <http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0188793>.

Martínez-Burnes J, Barrios-García H, Alva-Pérez J, Ramírez-Romero R, García-Márquez LJ, Lopez A. Bluetongue in white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) in Northeastern Mexico. Brazilian Journal of Veterinary Pathology 2017; 10:132-135.

For comments or suggestions for our newsletter, please contact: Dr. Fred Kibenge (kibenge@upei.ca) or

Ingrid MacLeod (imacleod@upei.ca) (902) 566-0541.

Editor Dr. Alfonso López Reviewer: Dr. Shelley Burton

Please don't print this newsletter unless you really need to!

