

Enigmatic, Exotic, or Urgent: Medicine Section Has It Covered

By Dean Herb Whiteley

University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine

With eight on-site faculty members—four of whom have joined the section in past year—the Small Animal Medicine team at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital is ready to help with your most confounding cases.

Section head Dr. Thomas Graves is an internationally renowned researcher and speaker on diabetes and other endocrine disorders. He and Drs. Julie Byron, Olivier Dossin, and Marcella Ridgway are the go-to specialists for advanced problems in canine and feline patients.

State-of-the-art endoscopy, diagnostic imaging, urodynamics, cytology, hematology, and other testing modalities assist them in rapid diagnosis. The latest medical management approaches are available at our hospital.

Dr. Maureen McMichael, an emergency and critical care specialist, came on staff last fall to oversee the ER and ICU. Her priorities have been to focus on communications with primary care veterinarians and implement a structured ER/ICU rotation for veterinary students while enhancing the breadth and excellence of critical care services.

Dr. Debra Sauberli, a reproduction specialist working out of our FARMS section for many years, has transitioned to the small animal medicine section to concentrate on dog breeding services.

In early 2007 Dr. Mark Mitchell returned to his alma mater after 10 years on faculty at Louisiana State. He joins Dr. Julia Whittington in providing clinical service to exotics owners and adds a strong research component to this aspect of the section. Recent faculty hires in anesthesiology and surgery who share an interest and expertise in exotics and wildlife have made our hospital a leader in clinical care for exotics.

Dr. Jennifer Langan, of course, is board-certified in zoo medicine and is located at Brookfield Zoo.

The Small Animal Medicine section also has six residents and eight interns. The entire section is deeply involved in educating veterinary students throughout the four years of the DVM curriculum.

I invite you to learn more about their area of expertise and contact them with your clinical questions.

Faculty Members

Julie K. Byron, DVM, MS, DACVIM

Clinical interests: Canine and feline urinary tract disease, canine urinary incontinence, cystoscopy and collagen implants, blastomycosis.

Olivier Dossin, DVM, PhD, DECVIM-CA

Clinical interests: Gastrointestinal diseases, liver and pancreatic diseases, diagnosis and functional investigation of inflammatory bowel disease, assessment of intestinal permeability and absorption, enzymes kinetics.

Thomas K. Graves, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVIM

Clinical interests: Endocrinology, geriatric medicine, renal disease, canine reproduction.

Jennifer N. Langan, DVM, DACZM

Clinical interests: Zoological and conservation medicine, reptile, avian, marine mammals, non-domestic hoof stock and carnivores, anesthesia in all zoological species.

Maureen McMichael, DVM, DACVECC

Clinical interests: Emergency and critical care medicine.

Mark A. Mitchell, DVM, MS, PhD

Clinical interests: Invertebrate, fish, amphibian, reptile, avian, and non-domestic mammal medicine and surgery, as well as conservation medicine and clinical issues in non-domestic species.

Marcella D. Ridgway, VMD, MS

Clinical interests: Gastrointestinal disorders.

Debra Sauberli, DVM, DACT

Clinical interests: Canine reproduction.

Julia K. Whittington, DVM

Clinical interests: Avian and exotic animal medicine, wildlife medicine and conservation.

For medicine referral appointments, please contact the appropriate clinical coordinator:

- Small Animal Medicine: Jessica Garrett, CVT, 217/244-1201
- Exotics: Kim Byrne, CVT, 217/265-6437
- Emergency: Stephanie Walker, CVT, 217/333-5331
- Intensive Care: Alyssa Galligan, CVT, 217/265-8098