

## **World-class CE at the Illini HQ**

*By Dean Herb Whiteley*

You *could* go to a veterinary conference in Orlando, Honolulu, or even Paris, but you could *not* find more authoritative speakers covering a more diverse and practice-relevant set of topics for a more economical price than you will find at our own Fall Conference this year on October 4 and 5.

And no other conference at any price offers the combination of alumni and Illini highlights you'll find in Urbana this fall.

The educational line-up showcases our world-class faculty along with selected guest speakers. Here is an overview of the session topics.

- Two small animal tracks to choose from on both days range from state-of-the-art pain management and anesthesia to endocrine case management, canine and feline oncology, and what's new in ophthalmology and dermatology.
- Two days of equine programming cover reproduction, nutrition, vaccines, and field anesthesiology.
- A new exotic animal track details care and diagnosis in reptiles, avian patients, and aquarium medicine.
- A full day of swine programming features six speakers offering the latest on management issues and infectious diseases, including Porcine Circovirus Associated Disease.
- The cattle track focuses on feeding and reproduction as well as an update from state veterinarian Dr. Mark Ernst.

You can extend your educational experience with a preconference workshop on biosecurity for the practicing veterinarian, or attend one of two wet labs, covering abdominal radiology and joint injections of the horse.

As usual, Fall Conference offers many chances to reconnect with classmates and faculty, but this year holds some special opportunities for socializing and showing your Illini pride.

Come a day early for the Wednesday afternoon golf outing, organized by the Veterinary Medical Alumni Association to help raise funds for students. We'll be teeing up on the Illini Blue golf course in Savoy.

At the Thursday evening backyard barbecue we will present our alumni awards to veterinarians who have made outstanding contributions to the profession. Following the presentation, get psyched for Saturday's Illinois-Wisconsin football match-up as Coach Ron Zook broadcasts his live call-in radio show from the Vet Med tent.

At the close of sessions on Friday, everyone will gather on the second floor of the Basic Sciences Building for the dedication of the Dr. Walter E. Zuschlag/ISVMA Veterinary Heritage Collection. This newly renovated space, made possible through the donations of veterinarians across Illinois and a generous gift from Mrs. Maureen Zuschlag, will display artifacts from the proud history of our profession in the context of a technologically advanced information commons designed for students.

After the dedication reception, you can start your class reunion activities off with a multi-year happy hour in our tent. Return to the tent on the veterinary campus on Saturday for our pre-game party. We hope that many of you who are mentors will host your student at the tent party and game.

Look for details and registration information in the Fall Conference mailer coming out in July.

You might find a more engaging locale at another conference, but I hope our Fall Conference is one you won't want to miss.