

Message from Dean Whiteley

I hope you've been hearing a lot about pain management in the past few years, and I hope you've been hearing much of it from the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. William Tranquilli, a board certified anesthesiologist and a professor with appointments in all three of our academic departments, and Dr. Kurt Grimm, who completed his anesthesiology residency and PhD in pharmacology and is boarded in both specialties, are international leaders in this field. They are bringing analgesia and anesthetic out of the surgery suite and into every realm of animal patient care: from pre- and post-surgical protocols to dentistry and other routine care procedures to treatment for chronic and geriatric conditions.

As you may know, AAHA recently revised its hospital standards of practice to include guidelines for pain management. I want to alert you to opportunities to learn more about pain management and to educate your clients as well.

- At Annual Fall Conference on Friday, October 15, in Urbana, you can attend a 3-hour presentation on pain management cases selected from those handled by our teaching hospital's Veterinary Interdisciplinary Pain Service (VIPS). This service integrates pain management efforts into all aspects of patient care at the hospital.
- The newly launched Veterinary Education Online program (see www.VEOillinois.org) offers 5 hours of "any time, anywhere" continuing education on pain management, as well as six other practice-relevant topics.
- At the Chicago Anti-Cruelty Society on Saturday, November 13, your clients can learn how a program in cohesive pain management promotes healing and comfort for pets. Dr. Steve Marks, head of small animal medicine, and Deneen Cordell, CVT in VIPS, will present "Comprehensive Compassionate Care" at 1 p.m. Owners can register by contacting Tammie Bouschor at (312) 644-8338 ext. 344 or e-mail tbouschor@anticruelty.org.

- Our College issues weekly columns on companion animal health that practitioners are encouraged to share with clients or their local media. Several of these have explained the benefits of pain management for animal well-being and recovery. You can search our pet column Web site at www.cvm.uiuc.edu/petcolumns/ to find these articles.

Faculty members in our Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine continue to be leaders in pain-related research. With a gift of more than \$650,000 from Pfizer Animal Health last year, seven clinical investigations have been funded and coordinated through VIPS. Their topics encompass canine rehabilitation, cancer therapy, eye surgery, and more.

As new knowledge is generated in these areas, you can be sure we will share it with practitioners through seminars, journal articles, and consultations. Please feel free to use our clinical faculty as a resource (217/333-5311), and you can always contact me at dean@cvm.uiuc.edu.--Herb

P.S. to WGN listeners: Be sure to tune in to Steve Dale's Pet Central on Saturday, November 13 (barring pre-emption by Chicago sports), to hear Drs. Steve Marks and Dianne Dunning talk about innovative ideas in companion animal care at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.