

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

College of Veterinary Medicine

2020

DVM COMMENCEMENT

Friday, May 1, 2020, 12:15 p.m.  
Michigan State University



# 2020 COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

## WELCOME

Dr. Birgit Puschner, Dean

## PRESENTATION OF COLLEGE AWARDS

Dr. Birgit Puschner, Dean

## DISTINGUISHED VETERINARY ALUMNUS AWARD (NON-PRACTITIONER)

Dr. Noreen Lowe Heikes

Career and Technical Education Instructor, Vicksburg High School, Vicksburg, MI

## DISTINGUISHED VETERINARY ALUMNUS AWARD (PRACTITIONER)

Dr. Melissa Owings

Owner, Kibby Park Animal Hospital, Jackson, MI  
President, Michigan Veterinary Medical Association

## DISTINGUISHED POSTDOCTORAL ALUMNUS

Eileen L. Thacker, PhD

Retired, USDA Agriculture Research Service, National Poultry Research Center, Athens, GA

## HONORARY VETERINARY ALUMNUS AWARD

Dr. N. Kent Ames

Professor Emeritus, MSU College of Veterinary Medicine  
Large Animal Clinical Sciences

## PRESENTATION OF CLASS FOR HOODING

Dr. Helene Pazak

Associate Dean for Academic Programs

# 2020 COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

## CONFERRING THE DEGREE

Dr. Birgit Puschner, Dean

## INTRODUCTION OF CLASS PRESIDENT

Dr. Helene Pazak

## REMARKS BY CLASS PRESIDENT

Dr. Megan Ahearne

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE VETERINARIAN'S OATH

Dr. Birgit Puschner

## CLOSING REMARKS

Dr. Birgit Puschner

## MSU SHADOWS

# AWARDS

## DISTINGUISHED VETERINARY ALUMNUS AWARDS

Recipients of Distinguished Veterinary Alumnus Awards have received their Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees from Michigan State University's College of Veterinary Medicine and are held in high esteem by their colleagues for their achievements in practice, teaching, research, service, or organized veterinary medicine.

The awards are conferred in two categories. One goes to an individual who has distinguished himself or herself in private practice for a sustained period of time and who has added great value to the veterinary community through excellence in practice, exemplary professionalism, and outstanding service. The other goes to an individual who similarly has excelled in public practice with government, corporate, military, or academic entities and added significant value to the profession and to his or her organization.

### 2020 DISTINGUISHED VETERINARY ALUMNUS (PRACTITIONER)

Melissa Owings, DVM ('98)  
Owner, Kibby Park Animal Hospital, Jackson, MI  
President, Michigan Veterinary Medical Association

### 2020 DISTINGUISHED VETERINARY ALUMNUS (NON-PRACTITIONER)

Noreen Lowe Heikes, DVM ('90)  
Career and Technical Education Instructor, Vicksburg High School, Vicksburg, MI

### 2020 DISTINGUISHED POSTDOCTORAL ALUMNUS

Eileen L. Thacker, DVM ('92)  
Retired, USDA Agriculture Research Service, National Poultry Research Center, Athens, GA

### HONORARY VETERINARY ALUMNUS AWARD

The recipient of the Honorary Veterinary Alumnus Award is a non-alumnus member of the College community who has been both distinctive and distinguished in one or more of the College's mission areas—teaching, research, or service. In recognition of sustained excellence and the great credit this person has brought to Michigan State University, the College officially names him or her an honorary alumnus.

### 2020 HONORARY VETERINARY ALUMNUS

N. Kent Ames, DVM, MS  
Professor Emeritus, MSU College of Veterinary Medicine  
Large Animal Clinical Sciences

# CLASS OF 2020

Tessa Adams	Jessica Eidenier
Megan Ahearne	Samantha Eldred
Allison Allum	Katherine Ewers
Meredith Anderson	Lauren Fenton
Krysten Andrews	Marissa Fitzpatrick
Amanda Atnip	Peter Fowler
Precious Bagdonas	Jessica Gardner
Heather Beasley	Anna Gates
Bridget Bennett	Christina Gatta
Edward Brauer III	Andrew Girgis
Ashley Brazen	Caleigh Griffin
Meagan Brill	Rachel Griffin
Kristin Brooks	Anita Grigor
Sarah Buchholz	Matthew Grupido
Joshua Bukoski	Karie Haase
Kyla Burgess	Sarah Hage
Rheannon Burris	Elizabeth Haiderer
Noah Busman	Eric Ham
Rachel Butler	Lindsay Hannah
Marisa Cervantes	Vanessa Hart
Kailey Chema	Susannah Haupt
Christopher Chess	Kyra Heirich
Chelsea Chrisman	Kelsey Hikade
Kimberly Christie	Joyce Ho
Zuania Cordero-Badillo	Michael Hoffman
Stephanie D'Annunzio	Genevieve Hoffman
Anna Davis	Kurando Honjo
Collin DeBosier	Emily Javery
Nicole Drca	Megan Johnson

# CLASS OF 2020

Kathryn Kesler	Nicolette Santercangelo
Mackenzie Kilbourn	Patrick Schauer
Alana Kramer	Bradley Schumaier
Lauren Kramer	Courtney Shinnors
Isaac Krause	Ashleigh Shoemaker
Matthew Kulpa	Michele Simmons
Kara Laird	Joshua Skapinker
Salvatore Leone	Kari Smith
Michaela Lohman	Emma Snider
Andrew Lukasiewicz	Benjamin Sorensen
Nichole Mabel	Pedro Soto-Elias
Jeniece Madison	Emma Stapley
Shauna Markby	Dana Stewart
Colleen Martin	Emily Stoner
Emily McCarthy	Ainsley Strong
Alexandra Mizenko	Anna-Marie Struble
Meghan Murphy	Jonathan Teeple
Bethany Myers	Skylar Thompson
Tai Li Nelson	Sarah Tritt
Chelsea Nowlin	Allyson Tucker
Kenji Ohseki	Chelsea Tynan
Sarah Patrias	Tony Vernaci
Bernadette Perez-Cantu	Kaytie Woodard-Voirol
Emily Pluger	Casey Wanros
Colleen Potter	Whitney Wells
Sumana Prabhakar	Shannon Williams
Ashley Putman	Chelsea Woodcock
Diana Rice	Alexander Zanetti
Joseph Sanchez	

# ADMINISTRATION

## Dean

Dr. Birgit Puschner

## Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies

Dr. Srinand Sreevatsan

## Associate Deans for Academic Programs

Dr. Bo Norby

Dr. Helene Pazak

## Associate Dean for Admissions, Student Life, and Inclusivity

Dr. Hilda Mejia Abreu

## Director of Veterinary Nursing

Ms. Taylor Epp

## Director of Marketing and Communications

Ms. Kristen Lare

## Senior Director of Development and Alumni Relations

Mr. Timothy J. Stedman



# ADMINISTRATION

## Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences

Dr. Annette O'Connor, Chairperson

## Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics

Dr. Victor DiRita, Chairperson

## Department of Pathobiology and Diagnostic Investigation

Dr. Dalen Agnew, Chairperson

## Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

Dr. Richard Neubig, Chairperson

## Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences

Dr. N. Bari Olivier, Chairperson

## Veterinary Medical Center

Dr. Christopher Gray, Director

## Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

Dr. Rachel Reams, Director

# VETERINARIAN'S OATH

Being admitted to the profession of veterinary medicine,  
I solemnly swear to use my scientific knowledge and  
skills for the benefit of society through the protection of  
animal health and welfare, the prevention and relief of  
animal suffering, the conservation of animal resources, the  
promotion of public health, and the advancement of medical  
knowledge. I will practice my profession conscientiously,  
with dignity, and in keeping with the principles of  
veterinary medical ethics.

I accept as a lifelong obligation the continual improvement  
of my professional knowledge and competence.

# MSU SHADOWS

MSU, we love thy Shadows  
When twilight silence falls,  
Flushing deep and softly paling  
O'er ivy covered halls;  
Beneath the pines we'll gather  
To give our faith so true,  
Sing our love for Alma Mater  
And thy praises, MSU.

"You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think"

— WINNIE-THE-POOH.

Thank you for being such an important part of team VMC!

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Dr. Chris Gray

— Chris Gray, MA, VETMB, MBA, MRCVS  
Director of the Veterinary Medical Center

Best wishes to the class of 2020.  
The world needs you and your  
One Health Knowledge and skills  
now more than ever - and you  
are up to the challenge!

Susan Ewart

- Susan Ewart, DVM, PhD, DACVIM  
Special Assistant to the Dean, Professor  
Large Animal Clinical Sciences

CONGRATULATIONS VM 2020!!

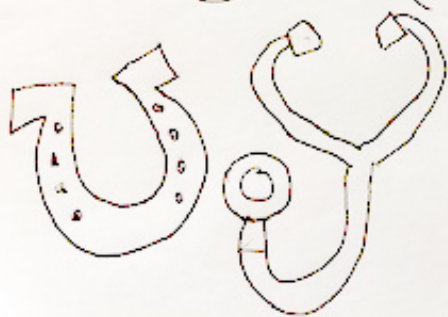


Ioana

– Ioana Sonea, DVM, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Pathobiology and Diagnostic Investigation

CONGRATULATIONS

CLASS OF 2020!



Dr Manfredi

– Jane Manfredi, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVS-LA, DACVSMR  
Assistant Professor  
Pathobiology and Diagnostic Investigation

Doctors!  
Remember: Placenta, placenta  
placenta!  
And everything will work out.  
Congratulations  
Dale W. Agnew

– Dalen Agnew, DVM, PhD, DACVP  
Department Chair, Associate Professor  
Pathobiology and Diagnostic Investigation

Congratulations  
CLASS OF 2020!  
To your well-deserved success—  
and your next adventures!!!

– Nyssa Levy, MS, DVM, DACVECC  
Assistant Professor  
Small Animal Clinical Sciences

