

VET MED KUDOS FOR 04-18-17

CVM Student Doctors, Oren Ofer (DVM 2018) and Jimmy Popp (DVM 2018) recently placed 3rd at VetPrep's inaugural [The Idea Innovation Competition](#) held at the 2017 Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association Annual Symposium. Oren and Jimmy's concept, *BeatboxECG*, was chosen from a national pool of over 70 teams. VetPrep gave the team a \$2,500 cash prize to assist them in developing their novel idea. "The Idea" is a competition held exclusively for veterinary students and encourages them to take an entrepreneurial and innovative approach to veterinary medicine. The competition required each team to pitch an idea to a diverse panel of veterinary innovators and professionals who provided supportive critique and then offered prizes to the top three groups.

CVM Associate Professor Dr. Mohammad Mir was recently invited to present his research on hantaviruses at the 9th International Virology Congress, held in London. Dr. Mir's presentation was a talk on The Therapeutic Intervention of Hantaviruses Disease.

The CVM Associate Professor has also published a manuscript in the SLAS Discovery. The manuscript reports a novel method that can be used to screen chemical libraries for the identification of antiviral molecules for the therapeutic intervention of viral diseases. For details see the link below. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28340538>

Dr. Mir has been invited as reviewer in the US department of Defense study section. The study section was charged to review grant applications for the 2018 Military Infectious Diseases Research Program (MIDRP). He also participated in the review of progress reports of previously funded grants by the MIDRP.

The recent publication from the Mir Laboratory, CVM, Western U has been reported in Wallboard publications of Physician's Weekly, a trusted source of medical news and information for healthcare professionals at the point of care, with a history of more than 30 years. The wallboard publication—the cornerstone of Physician's weekly success—is located in over 10,000 top medical institutions in the country. See the link below <http://www.physiciansweekly.com/targeting-a-novel-rna-protein-interaction-for-therapeutic-intervention-of-hantavirus-disease/>

Dr. Richard Wong, DVM 2010, is now a Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Surgeons – Small Animal in Worcester, MA. Dr. Noah Pavlisko, DVM 2010, passed his anesthesia and analgesia boards. Dr. Charlie Dong, CVM 2012, has passed her Dermatology boards

About 20 WesternU CVM SCAAEP members turned out to offer a low cost Equitarian Initiative Low Cost Health Care Day recently. There were both Equine and small animal students in the group. CVM graduate, Dr. Maia Aerni (DVM 2013) assisted the group, along with CVM facilitator Dr. Hillary Carroll and the supervising veterinarian, Dr. Neil Gray. Students who attended were able to put into practice equine safety, physical exam skills, and client communication skills with an added language barrier for most of our students and clients that day. They participated in physical exams, ophthalmic exams, vaccinations, floats, pregnancy checks, a gastroscopy and even an enucleation.

CVM Assistant Professor, Dr. Jijun Hao recently published two review papers. "Targeting Signaling Pathways in Cancer Stem Cells for Cancer Treatment" was published in Stem Cell International. MSBS student Jeffery Koury and COMP faculty Li Zhong are co-authors of this paper. The other paper, entitled "Development of anticancer agents targeting the Hedgehog signaling" was published in cellular and Molecular Life Sciences.

CVM Professor, Dr. Teresa Y. Morishita has been appointed to serve as Panel Chair for Alternatives to Antibiotics in Food Animal Production programs of the United States Department of Agriculture – Agricultural Research Services, Office of National Programs.