Dr. Sharkey graduated from Dr. Judy Radin’s lab in 1999 and she is now an Associate Professor in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Pathology, University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine.

**How did you get this position?** I was recruited from Tufts University into a tenure-track position here.

**Did you always want this type of position? If not, what changed your mind?** During my residency and graduate programs, I was not at all clear about what kind of job I eventually wanted. Upon completing my degree, I interviewed at a couple of different companies and universities. I accepted a position at Tufts University for several reasons, including the institutional academic philosophy, geographic proximity to where I was living at the time, employment opportunities for my husband, and a nice place for my kids.

**Do you enjoy what you do? Why?** I love what I do! I often feel pulled in too many different directions, but my enjoyment of the diversity of my job outweighs that challenge most days. The academic environment is very stimulating, and it offers a lot of opportunities to grow in different directions. For example, I currently am engaged in some research on the scholarship of teaching and learning in collaboration with researchers at the College of Education.

**Do you have any advice for current students looking for a job similar to yours?** The graduate training, while painful, is worth it. It opens a lot of doors for professional development. When it comes time to look for a job, try to be very honest with yourself about what makes you happy and find a job that works with the rest of your life. Take the time to speak with a variety of people working in different settings to get the information that you need to make the best decision.

**How does your graduate training play a part in your everyday work life? What is your favorite memory from being in graduate school?** I have a significant research component to my job, which includes applied clinical research, collaborative research, and basic research. My graduate training helps me to assist veterinary students, residents and graduate students with their own research projects. I also find that my graduate training contributes directly to the more clinical aspects of my job because it reinforces skills in critical thinking, scientific writing, and the evaluation of the scientific literature, which is the basis for the development and utilization of diagnostic testing in a clinical setting.

**Do you have any funny stories about being a VBS student that you would like to share?** Probably nothing appropriate for a newsletter!

**Would you mind sharing your email so that students can contact you for advice or questions?** Shark09@umn.edu

Find yourself wondering “where are they now?” Email suggestions to werbeck.1@osu.edu!
GSA Announcements!

Our winter quarter GSA meeting will be Friday February 13th at 1:00pm in Goss 322

Meeting Agenda:
1- Discuss planning for Career day
2- Feedback/discussion about VBS services/ GSA website
3- GSA elections for Spring quarter
4- Other feedback/suggestions

Graduate student tip of the month:

Did you know that the medical center has an listserv that will email you daily with a list of all medical related seminars at OSU?

Subscribe at: http://medicine.osu.edu/subscribe/

The DO's AND DON'Ts of SCHMOOZING WITH YOUR PROFESSOR

Do be cheerful in approaching your professor, but not TOO cheerful.

Hello! You are clearly too happy, that will have to change.

Do Not bring up topics they are unfamiliar with:
- Popular Culture
- Popular anything
- Your research

...and then it turned out to be negative.

Do steer the conversation toward topics you are BOTH interested in:
- Your professor’s daily commute
- Your professor’s kids
- Your professor’s obscure hobbies

Wow, that’s really fascinating about your collection of antique portuguese tiles, tell me more.

Do Not expect much.

Well, i... uh... hey, is that guacamole?

News from the Council of Graduate Studies (CGS):

Our official advocate for graduate student needs

Did you know that the CGS just passed 3 new resolutions?

1. To advocate for the graduate school to clarify the 3 credit hour post-candidacy registration rule for graduate students
   - With regard to the maximum credits a student can take with departmental permission and the ability to enroll in coursework related to professional and/or personal development

2. To support the increase of the student activity fee (SAF) from $15 to $25 a quarter.
   - This fee has not increased since 2003 and will now fund staff and programs dedicated to graduate and professional student development!!

3. To support the implementation of an optional student legal services fee
   - An optional $40 yearly fee for student legal services such as actions between landlords and tenants, defense of a student charged with a misdemeanor crime, consumer transactions, domestic matters, conversion of property, and other miscellaneous manners

Other useful websites!

- Best places to work as a postdoc 2008: http://www.the-scientist.com/supplementary/flash/54374/top35.html
- Survival guide for graduate students: http://www.cs.columbia.edu/~nieh/teaching/gradguide/
- Predoctoral fellowships: http://main.uab.edu/Sites/gradschool/students/current/43710/
- Ohio Union activities page: http://www.ohiounion.osu.edu/default.asp