A recent report of an external review of the Department conducted as part of the normal process of academic governance by the University’s Office of Academic Affairs was extremely affirmative. This review was coordinated by Dean Rosol’s office, Associate Provost Randy Smith, and Graduate School Dean Patrick S. Osmer. Various groups of academic leaders, faculty, staff, and students were asked to meet with the review team during a visit December 5th to 7th, 2007. The review team's responsibilities were to assess the Department—including its faculty, programs, students, leadership, and plans. The team was asked to provide the University an evaluation of the current status of the Department and make recommendations for maintaining and improving its quality. The report was extremely positive about what the faculty, staff, and students of the Department have accomplished. To quote from the report: "The OSU College of Veterinary Medicine is a relatively small college within the University, but University administration must recognize that the College is a giant among its national and international peer institutions. In addition, VBS is not only integral, but also essential to the academic standing of the College." "VBS is unquestionably recognized as amongst the very best programs of its type at both the national and international levels" and "The Department is enriched by an environment of trust and respect that extends among the faculty, graduate and professional students, laboratory/technical staff, and administrative/educational staff." While extremely positive the report also indicated key areas that will continue to challenge the Department in the areas of central support for graduate education, infrastructure improvements, and retention and recruitment of high quality faculty in a competitive environment. Overall, the report reflected the dedication, values, and talents brought each day by the faculty, staff, and students to their work. The faculty, staff, and students in the Department will use the report to work with Dean Rosol and Provost Joseph Alutto to develop an action plan to address the challenges brought up in the report to build upon the past success of the Department to make it one of the best in the nation.
Events and Programs

- Martin Luther King Day – **Monday, January 21**. Offices Closed.
- Free Campus Health Screenings **begin January 7**. Faculty and staff are encouraged to take advantage of the free benefit to track blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose, weight and height. Schedule your online screening at [www.yourplanforhealth.com](http://www.yourplanforhealth.com).
- As the first of seven brown bag talks organized by the Center for African Studies, Jesse Kwiek (VBS graduate faculty member) will speak on HIV/AIDS in Malawi at noon **Friday (1/11)** in 122 Oxley Hall.
- Resources, the Office of Human Resources’ quarterly newsletter, is now available online at [hr.osu.edu/resources](http://hr.osu.edu/resources). The Winter Quarter issue includes articles on Your Plan for Health’s 2008 Incentive Program and online W-2 registration.
- There will be a test of the Buckeye Alert System at noon **Wednesday (1/16)**. At that time, the system will be activated and all campus telephones and any registered cellular telephones will begin to receive a voice or text message clearly identified as a test.

**Workplace Tip: Prepare for the Workweek**  Steve Prentice, president of Bristall Morgan and author of *Cool Time: a Hands-On Plan for Managing Work and Balancing Time:* 1) Plan your commute. The more comfortable your commute is, the better you can handle work stress, and 2) do what’s important first. The hours of 9 to 11 am are often the most productive, so do the more difficult tasks of the day first, 3) Prepare to be happy. Have a positive attitude and choose to be happy, passionate and organized, and you’ll accomplish more during the day.

Selected Recent Grants/Publications/Presentations/Awards/Appointments

- **Dr. Tom Rosol** was selected by the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges to co-chair a national joint initiative in public health.
- **Drs. William Kisseberth, Laura Rush** and **Cheryl London** were awarded $106,110 for their project entitled “MicroRNA profiling and microRNA-based treatment of canine cancers” from the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation.

**Staff Profile: Alan Flechtner**

**Alan Flechtner** is the Lab Manager of Histology and the IHC Core Lab, where he manages and oversees the daily operations and work flow in the lab and coordinates special projects. Alan graduated from Heidelberg College in Tiffin and received a BS in Biology with honors. He received certification as a histotechnologist with the ASCP (American College of Clinical Pathologists) in 1995, achieving the highest national score on the exam. His office is in the Histology Lab in 302 Goss. Thanks for all your contributions to the Department, Alan!

Send comments to Jennie Winck, winck.1@osu.edu. Visit the OSU Department of Veterinary Biosciences website: [http://www.vet.ohio-state.edu/biosciences.htm](http://www.vet.ohio-state.edu/biosciences.htm)