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By Lisa De Nault & Travis Saveraid[†]

Whew! We made it. It is a wonderful feeling to be wrapping up our last issue as editors of the *ISU Veterinarian*. We have really enjoyed working on this tremendous publication. Starting in May, we disappear downstairs to begin our senior rotations and the rest of our lives - a little scary and a whole lot of excitement. Next fall, second-year veterinary student Eric Vymyslicky will take over as editor. Eric has spent the semester as the assistant editor and we refer to him as our computer/layout guru. Eric and our excellent staff will be leading the journal into the next millennium. We wish them the best of luck.

This issue is full of diversity. Besides the ongoing events at the ISU CVM, we have included articles that address "senior year", an often confusing and scary concept. Hopefully, these articles will help the current students as they progress through the veterinary curriculum. We have also featured stories about some new additions and some sad goodbyes. Dr. Greve, Dr. Adams, and Dr. Reece all retired within the past year. All are institutions at ISU CVM. We thought that many alumni would like to read about their respective retirements and future plans. The three timely senior papers feature a range of subjects. Surprisingly, Iowa actually has several species of poisonous snakes. Also, geriatric care is a rapidly growing area of companion animal practices and we feel that this paper presents very good, concise information on the subject. The authors also address the importance of the human-animal bond. Lastly, a review of potential disease problems in a dairy herd is especially timely as dairy operations continue to expand in Iowa and across the nation.

It has been fun. We hope that you enjoy the journal and appreciate the tremendous amount of time and effort put into each and every issue. We continue to encourage current students to become involved and we appreciate the continued support and encouragement from faculty, staff, and all of the dedicated alumni members. We look forward to reading this journal for years to come as we head into the 21st century.

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