

Dr. Yaeger Contributes in Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

Elizabeth A. Jaskowiak†

Seniors taking their diagnostic rotation have been seeing a new face in the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. Dr. Michael Yaeger joined the Iowa State University faculty in July of 1996, has become a valued member of the diagnostic team, and has shown himself to be a talented instructor. Dr. Yaeger believes that hands-on experience enhances the learning of students and is essential for complete understanding. Students in his class spend a few hours in the morning in lecture and the rest of the day working in the necropsy lab investigating and correlating data, trying to come up with a diagnosis for specimens sent to Iowa State University.

"I always knew I wanted to go into pathology," he said. "But I wanted to experience working as a practicing veterinarian first." After graduating from the University of Minnesota in 1984, Dr. Yaeger worked in a practice in Alaska for a year, where he treated a variety of animals that ranged from hamsters to horses to musk oxen. He then returned to his home state of Minnesota to practice for a few more years.

Dr. Yaeger later went back to school to complete a residency and earn his Ph.D. in pathology at Michigan State University. Before coming to Iowa State University, Dr. Yaeger was on the staff of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at South Dakota State University in Brookings, South Dakota.

Dr. Yaeger enjoys pathology because every day presents new challenges and opportunities to learn new things. He sees each case as a puzzle, and each lab report as a piece that allows for better understanding



Biomedical Communications, ISU

Dr. Michael Yaeger joined the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in July 1996. He was previously on staff at the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at South Dakota State University.

of the picture the puzzle creates. This excitement and enthusiasm stems from Dr. Yaeger's undying thirst for knowledge. He sees education as one of life's most powerful tools.

Dr. Yaeger can be contacted at the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Room 1652, or at (515) 294-1124.♦

†Elizabeth A. Jaskowiak is a first-year veterinary student at the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine.