

TIMOTHY A. CUDD, DVM, PHD
SEPTEMBER 2, 1956 - AUGUST 26, 2012

On August 26th, the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences (CVM) lost a beloved member of the CVM family. After a lengthy struggle with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) or Lou Gehrig's Disease, Dr. Timothy Cudd died peacefully surrounded by family and friends.



Cudd received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from the University of Tennessee, his undergraduate alma mater, in 1982. Afterward, he entered private practice in Kentucky at two of the leading equine hospitals in the state. It was during this time that he established the first private practice neo-natal foal clinic in the United States. In 1988, he returned to academia to complete a PhD in the Department of Physiological Sciences at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine. He joined the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences family as an Assistant Professor in 1994.

Cudd was a leader in the college, recognized as an outstanding teacher and researcher. As a professor and member of the faculty in the Department of Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology at the CVM, Cudd's research lab investigated alcoholism and the impact of alcohol on fetal development. His expertise in this area is world renowned, and at the time of his departure from the CVM, Cudd's lab had been funded with a \$1.6 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to study Fetal Alcohol Syndrome utilizing a sheep model. Cudd was recognized for the quality and significance of his research efforts with the Pfizer Award for Research Excellence in 2003.

Collaborating on both research and teaching initiatives, Cudd held a joint appointment with the Texas A&M University System Health Science Center in the Department of Medical Anatomy and Neurobiology and he was also a member of the Interdisciplinary Faculty of Reproductive Biology. Through his multidisciplinary approach, Cudd also included biomedical engineering concepts in the classroom and regularly facilitated courses focused on the physiological implications for biomedical engineers.

Teaching, in addition to research, was an important part of Dr. Cudd's career at the CVM. He served as a long-term member on the curriculum committee, chairing the group for nearly five years. Cudd was instrumental in facilitating the significant shift in the curriculum for the professional DVM program at the college. He attended the Bayer Animal Health Communication Project Faculty Development Program in 2009 and implemented many of the learning concepts into his classroom to enhance student learning and to work toward his goal of graduating compassionate and caring veterinarians that were ready to lead in the veterinary profession. In addition to his nomination from the CVM for a Texas A&M University Presidential Professor for Teaching Excellence Award in 2004, Cudd received the Bridges Teaching and

Service Award in 2010. In 2011, the Association of Former Students recognized Cudd with a College-Level Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching. Letters from students in his nomination packet note Cudd's high expectations for his students, his willingness to listen, and his compassionate mentoring skills.

When not working with students or in his lab, Cudd loved horses and was an equestrian enthusiast and, with his family, bred and trained competition dressage horses. He also enjoyed cowboy action shooting. As his ALS began to progress, Cudd made the decision to leave the CVM and return to Florida to be near family. His departure this past spring was difficult for everyone at the CVM, and news of his death has been difficult for all. While missed by the faculty, staff, and students, Cudd has left a legacy of leadership and excellence that will continue to permeate the halls of our college.