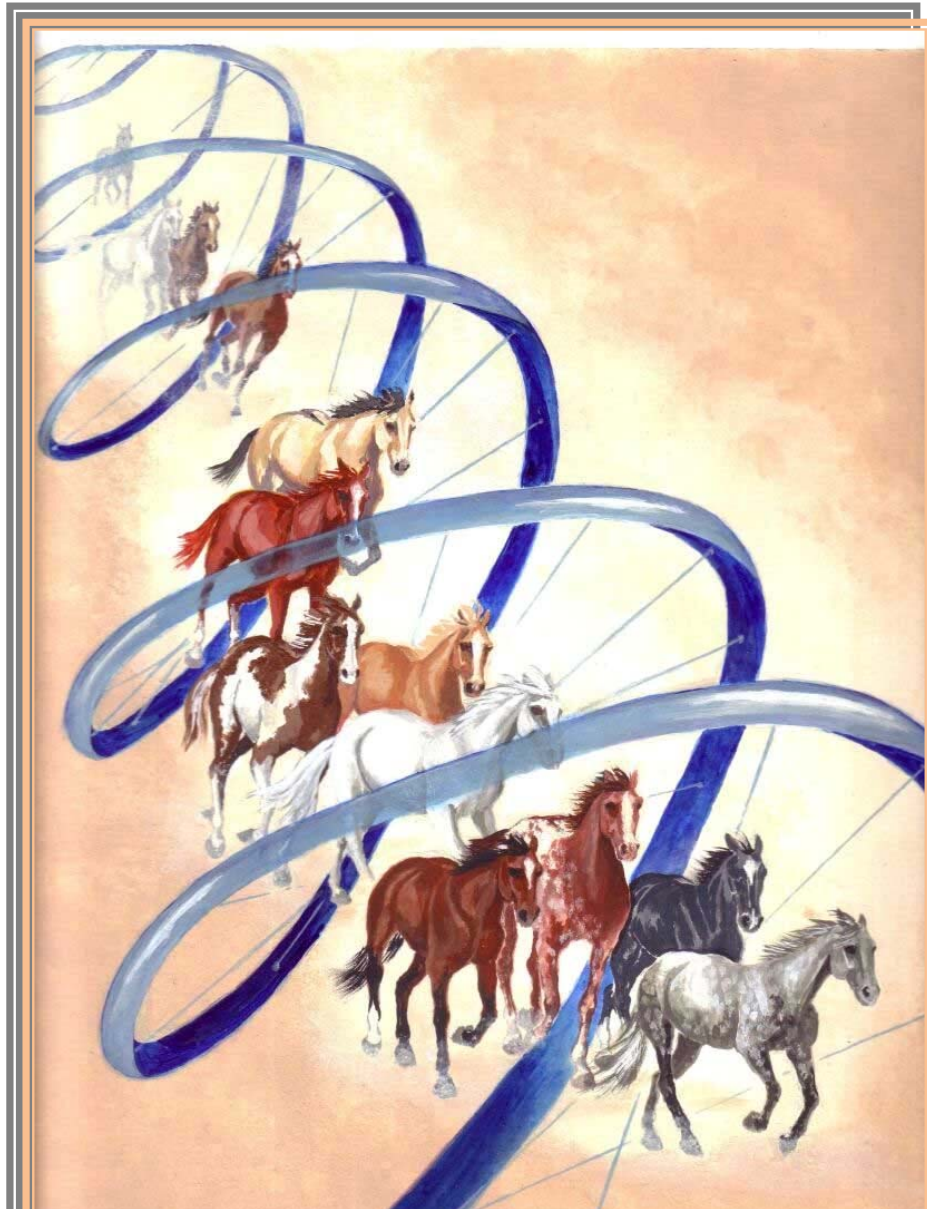


**UNIVERSITY
of GUELPH**

Equine Guelph



Annual Report

May 1, 2008 – April 31, 2009

Cover Artwork:

The artwork shown on the front page has been done by Ruth Benns and is featured on the cover of the new offering of the Equine Genetics course, a part of the award-winning Equine Science Certificate. Ruth is a graduate of the University of Guelph and her artwork is featured on many of the EquiMania! displays, including "SeeMore", the painted anatomy horse.

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Executive Summary

As the sixth year of operation for Equine Guelph began, 2008-2009, the plans were finalized for the Fifth Anniversary dinner to celebrate the last five years of achievements and look forward to the next five years and beyond! About 100 people, including funding partners and supporters joined together at the beautiful Tralee Estates to mix and mingle and share stories of why they support and continue to be a part of Equine Guelph.

And the momentum continued throughout the year with exciting new developments in all areas of the five pillars of the **Equine Excellence Initiative**, through **Research, Education, Performance, Healthcare and Industry Development**. The many outreach programs that have been developed by Equine Guelph staff and its committees continue to build on the foundation and have resulted in increased awareness of these important programs.

The development of the research program deserves to be the point of much pride for both the equine industry and the University as it is becoming one of the most focussed and productive in North America. With the strong investment of the industry, a total of \$591,396 was available. The diversity of the program speaks to the collected expertise of researchers involved in the Equine Guelph research program, including areas of study for improving the diagnostic capability of ultrasound, reducing the risks of anaesthesia, and developing improved methods to understand the stresses on the hoof and limb on different surfaces and improved medical management. Opportunities for communicating the results of the research program continue to expand and the highlight of the year was the special issue of the Research Magazine that focused on Equine Guelph research programs and continues to draw praise from those who have received it.

The growth of the education program has been a priority for this year and from 4 courses available in 2003, there are now 11 courses on offer, with the new and popular Equine Behaviour and Genetics courses. Equine Guelph has been able to increase its offerings of courses per year from 4 in 2003, to 8 in 2005 and now is offering 12 courses per year in its online program. This award-winning program started with one certificate program and has grown to now offer three certificate programs, a diploma program, a strong youth program and several workshops. The EquiMania! program experienced a rapid growth, thanks to the continued investment in youth from our partners and the strong support of corporate sponsors that led to the most successful showing at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair with the launch of the new "Play Safe. It's HorseSense" initiative along with the popular "Hazard Hunt in the Horse's House" activity, drawing over 60,000 people, including approximately 20,000 youth.

New developments supporting the health care of horses included the final stages of construction for the much-anticipated Large Animal Isolation Unit and the start of construction on the new Pathology building and the fund-raising for the new Equine Sports Medicine and Reproduction Centre, building on the strong history of animal care at the Ontario Veterinary College and the expansion of services that will be available for the horse industry with the OVC Health Sciences Centre.

The true partnership that can exist between a rider and horse is a very moving site, when harmony, cooperation and trust become the dominant themes of the equestrian relationship. As Equine Guelph moves forward into the next five years of its development, it is a worthy goal to pursue such a relationship between the industry associations and participants and the University of Guelph and in this way continue to strengthen Equine Guelph and its programs so that all partners – and all horses – benefit from the investment.

The successful partnership, that includes E.P. Taylor Equine Research Fund, Equine Canada, the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association of Ontario, the Ontario Equestrian Federation, the Ontario Harness Horse Association, the Ontario Racing Commission, OMAFRA, Standardbred Canada and the University of Guelph, will be the driving force of the future for new and continuing achievements of Equine Guelph.

This annual report provides the details on the 2008-2009 activities of Equine Equine Guelph and salutes the partnerships that make these achievements possible for the benefit of the equine industry.



EQUINE GUELPH

Dear Partners and Supporters of Equine Guelph,

After the first five years of achieving growth and successful milestones, Equine Guelph continued to successfully build on this solid foundation in each program area of its five point plan. The Equine Excellence Initiative (EEI), which includes Research, Education, Performance, Health Care and Industry Development, was developed by the Equine Guelph Council in order to provide improved support and service to the horse industry while enhancing the industry-University partnership as a Centre. This year has seen many exciting advances in the equine research program and several new initiatives developed including new online courses, expansion of current offerings for training and education. The details of these and other accomplishments will be found in the follow pages of this annual report.

The partners of Equine Guelph, E.P. Taylor Equine Research Fund, Equine Canada, the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association of Ontario, the Ontario Equestrian Federation, the Ontario Harness Horse Association, the Ontario Racing Commission, OMAFRA, Standardbred Canada and the University of Guelph, are an integral part of this ongoing and future success.

As Co-Chairs of Equine Guelph, this is our opportunity to send our thanks to each of the associations and individuals who have invested in the programs of Equine Guelph, which in turn allow new research findings and programming of service to the equine industry. The dedication and commitment of the many dedicated and enthusiastic individuals, donors and sponsors who have worked hard on the Advisory Council and Committees are main contributors to our success.

Your continued support over the past year and into the future is helping to ensure the health of the equine industry through the health and welfare of the horse.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Stone".

Dr. Elizabeth Stone
Co-Chair, Equine Guelph
Dean, Ontario Veterinary College

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Moira Gunn".

Dr. Moira Gunn
Co-Chair, Equine Guelph



Introduction

Equine Guelph is a unique partnership between the equine industry and the University of Guelph, providing programs and services that will create a centre of excellence that support the horse owner and caregiver.

Founded in 2003, Equine Guelph has been dedicated to improving the health and well-being of horses. The combined resources of the equine industry and the University provide support to the industry by providing a “continuum of care” for all horses from the backyard pony to the high performance equine athlete. The 2008-2009 fiscal year marks Year 6 of the Equine Guelph development. This has been a year that has continued to build on the foundation created in the early years and has seen significant progress in several areas.

With the continued partnership of E.P. Taylor Equine Research Fund, Equine Canada, The Horsemen’s Benevolent and Protective Association of Ontario, Ontario Equestrian Federation, Ontario Harness Horse Association, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Ontario Racing Commission, Standardbred Canada and the University of Guelph under the Equine Guelph banner, the potential exists to contribute to very exciting future for the equine industry in Ontario and beyond.

The Co-Chairs of the Equine Guelph Council are Dr. Moira Gunn, representing the equine industry, and Dr. Elizabeth Stone, Dean of the Ontario Veterinary College, representing the University of Guelph. The Co-Chairs oversee the programs and funding initiatives of the Council and the Committees, which include Research, Education Committee, Communications and Marketing, Development and Finance. Staff of Equine Guelph include Gayle Ecker, Senior Manager, Susan Raymond, Diane Gibbard, Henrietta Coole and David Finlay.

Programs of Equine Guelph: The Equine Excellence Initiative

The Equine Guelph Council developed the Equine Excellence Initiative (EEI) which pulls together the resources of the University of Guelph and the industry. The five pillars of the EEI include Research, Education and Training, Performance, Health Care and Industry Development. The updates for each of these areas are included in the following sections.

Research

Equine research is in a very healthy position thanks to the continued and stable funding provided through the sponsoring partners of Equine Guelph. Research has been a major component of Equine Guelph’s activity since its conception, as a result of the strong base provided by the University and funding partners. The research endeavour has evolved to be among the most focussed and productive in the equine arena in North America.

Nine projects continuing from 2008, and 8 projects beginning this summer were recommended for support in this year’s research competition. The total amount available for distribution was \$403,000 which reflects the strong commitment of the partners to this endeavour. Summaries of the goals and objectives of the new projects may be found in Appendix 5. They run the gamut from studies improving the diagnostic capability of ultrasound, and reducing the risks of anaesthesia during standing and recumbent surgeries, to exploring ways of recording forces on the hoof and limbs under race conditions.

Communicating results from scientific experiments to the industry has always been a priority of the equine research program. Last year, as a result of a partnership initiative with Equine Guelph, an issue of the Research Magazine of the University of Guelph was devoted to research achievements. The booklet has proven to be invaluable in conveying to members of the equine industry the breadth, quality and relevance of the program. To capitalize on this success, Equine Guelph will be devoting an expanded Fall issue of the EG newsletter to repeat this means of disseminating the work being done. In addition to articles focussing on individual projects and researchers, two features will present the major contributions of two longer term, team-based areas of research. The work of Keith Betteridge and his extensive team has unlocked many of the fundamental issues involved in reproductive failure in mares. It has achieved international recognition. The second feature is on the research that has resulted from the Death Registry Program, initiated in 2003. The primary aim was to document the frequency and causes of equine deaths during or shortly after racing events. The program is similar in intent to the 5 or 6 in the USA, and others worldwide, though it has a broader mandate than most by including Thoroughbreds, Standardbreds and Quarterhorses. What makes it uniquely valuable is the nature of the research projects that have resulted from detailed post-mortem examinations of the unfortunate horses in the registry. These range from studies of the frequency and severity of wear and tear on the joints in both fore and hind limbs, to the unexpected identification of arterial hardening in 2 and 3 year-old racehorses. Both features demonstrate the effectiveness and results of long-term funding to research.

From the strong position that the research program has achieved, we are looking to the future with the aim of expanding and improving our contribution to the health and welfare of horses in Ontario. We are exploring ways to involve stakeholders and regulators in the design and creation of programs that will provide specific and readily applicable answers to current problems. Such a proactive method of driving research will complement and enhance the present model which is aimed at ensuring health of horses and the equine industry in the long term. On the basis of current status and the exciting possibilities of continued progress and evolution, both the present and the future of the Equine Guelph Research Program look to be in good shape.

Education and Training

This was a banner year for growth in the education program with exciting new developments and expansions of offerings. The education program began in 2003 with the 6-course online Equine Science Certificate. Continuing as a leader in equine industry education, in 2008, we expanded the educational offerings and developed a "sister" certificate in Equine Business Management, and offered students the opportunity to upgrade to the new online Equine Studies Diploma, giving students many opportunities to enhance their knowledge for the care and well-being of their horses. This year we offered 12 courses and we were operating at capacity with over 680 registrations for the courses. There were 42 students awarded the Equine Science Certificate, bringing our total to 161 students. And in 2009, we awarded the first Equine Studies Diploma to Lynn Zito, a student from Texas. A further 30 students will be eligible for the Diploma in the fall of 2009.

The priority for the Equine Guelph team for the 2008-2009 education year involved building the education program by development new course offerings. Achievements included the completion and offering of the new Equine Behaviour course and the Equine Genetics course, both of which sold out. Work is ongoing on new courses including Stewardship of the Equine Environment (Fall 2009), The Equine Industry (January 2009), Finance and Risk Management (Fall 2009), Marketing and Communications (Fall 2009), and Equine Event Management (May 2009).

This development continues to receive support from the equine industry and our students who welcome the opportunity to continue their learning journey as part of the “lifelong learning pathway”. The majority of our online students come from Ontario (67.6%) with representation from BC, AB, SK, MB, PQ, ATL, YT and NU. The student population also represented an increased number of US students from 14 different states and also include students from Poland, New Zealand, Argentina, Spain, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Italy, Kuwait, Switzerland, Honduras, Australia, Lithuania and Denmark, making our program truly an International Learning Community!

The courses included in the Certificates and Diploma program are included in the Appendices along with statistics on course enrollments and offerings.

Groom One

We had 23 students signed up for the online Groom One program and we have recently awarded 11 Groom One Certificates to students completing all phases of the program. Students came from all disciplines including racing and non-racing sectors of the industry. More students will be completing the certificate program after they have completed their work experience phase.

EquiMania!

The EquiMania! youth education program continues to draw rave reviews for its fun, interactive learning environment for the young and young at heart with the highlight of the year at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. A new educational component of EquiMania! was launched with the development of the “Play Safe. It’s HorseSense!” activities and the “Hazard Hunt in the Horse’s House” quiz. This new approach represents an exciting era of strategic partnerships with Farm Safety, Kubota, OEF and System Fence to develop and present a strong safety message in the EquiMania! program. Over 60,000 people, and approximately 20,000 youth went through the display. The EquiMania! display also featured educational displays on both Thoroughbred and Standardbred racing with support of Woodbine Entertainment Group and Standardbred Canada, and new educational displays were developed with sponsorship from ShurGain, Pfizer and the Grand River Agricultural Society.

Workshops

In person workshops offer the equine industry an opportunity for hands-on and in-depth study on weekends. Three workshops were held this year which included the popular Guided Tour of Equine Anatomy, Advanced Equine Anatomy and The Horse & the Grey Flannel Suit with a total of 56 students attending.

Performance

Fund-raising began for the proposed new Sports Medicine and Reproductive Centre as part of the Equine Guelph mandate to assist in the development of new facilities for horse care at the Ontario Veterinary College. The Equine Sports Medicine and Reproductive Centre will provide a separate, specialized facility for the equine athlete. Direct access to top specialists in the field of equine sports medicine will provide owners to specialized lameness evaluation in an all-weather arena, accessing advanced equipment that will include a high-speed treadmill with digital imaging for performance-limiting lameness, respiratory and cardiovascular problems. There will also be separate facilities for the equine reproduction section for stallions and for mares and foals. New services such as fertility evaluation, embryo transfer and other advanced reproductive technologies will be on offer to the industry upon completion of this centre.

Health Care

Exciting new steps forward were achieved by the University in the area of horse health care with the completion of the Large Animal Isolation Unit. The new state-of-the-art building will provide improved facilities for horses and other large animals with suspected infectious diseases. The stalls are large and equipped with 24 hour monitoring, rubber floors, steam-cleaning units and other specialty equipment that will enhance their care and protect the horses and staff. Construction also began on the new Animal Pathology building on the corner of Gordon and McGilvray Street.

Industry Development

The Ontario Equine Centre (OEC), Inc. continued their work in developing the economic impact study and making presentations to the government to present the vision proposed by the equine industry for the Arkell site. With the announcement that Ontario would make a bid for the Pan-Am Games, it was hopeful that the OEC would be a chosen venue. This did not happen however, and as the Pan-Am bid was not part of the original vision, the work of the committee is ongoing to continue the development of this vision and its completion by securing the land, identifying funding and the continued development of the site plan .

Communications and Marketing

During Equine Guelph's sixth year, the Communications and Marketing Program has received significant response from the horse industry and its publications in its published print and web articles.

Newsletter

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
CHANGING LIVES
IMPROVING LIFE

Volume XXIII Number 2 Fall 2008

Research

www.uoguelph.ca/research magazine

Art ... and science

Researchers Peter Physick-Sheard (left) and Kim McGurrin are helping horses such as Artist – “Art” for “short – stay on track with a new pocket-size heart monitor. See page 19

Inside this edition

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Spring 2009

Equine Guelph Update

Volume 6, Number 1

SAFETY takes Centre Stage in 2009

Equine Industry Partners with Equine Guelph on Youth Safety Initiative

Equine Guelph's new youth safety initiative for 2009, "Play Safe. It's HorseSense!" was announced as a partnership between Farm Safety Association (Country Kids Safety Network), Kubota Canada, System Fencing and Equine Guelph and launched at the 2008 edition of the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair as part of Equine Guelph's *EquiMania!* Education Centre.

This new initiative teaches young horse enthusiasts how to stay safe around horses and farm equipment. "Between kids, horses, fences, stalls and tractors, a horse farm can be a very dangerous place," says Gayle Ecker, senior manager of Equine Guelph. "The support of industry leaders allows us to elevate the message of safety around horses to the next level."

From 1990 to 2005, 63% of animal-related injuries among youth in Ontario occurred in incidents involving horses. 65% of the children injured by horses were young girls – one of the rare categories of agricultural injuries in which more females than males tend to be injured. The majority of the injuries were caused by falling from a horse or being struck by a horse. Machine run-overs were the predominant cause of fatal injuries – at 46% – for children under the age of 16.

The primary goal of this safety initiative is to reduce the number of tractor- and horse-related accidents amongst youth on horse farms in Ontario.

"This is a partnership that makes sense," says Dean Anderson, executive director of the Farm Safety Association. "We are delivering a critical safety message in a fun, interactive way to kids through *EquiMania!*'s high-profile educational initiatives at equine events."

As part of the "Play Safe. It's HorseSense!" initiative, kids compete in a safety trivia contest, test their knowledge of tractor safety at the Kubota Safety School, search for safety issues in the Hazard Hunt in the



At the 2008 Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, the venue was swarming with kids wearing horse hats. "We had over 17,000 walking billboards of our safety message – on kids' heads!" says Anderson.

Horse's House and adorn horse hats sporting the branded safety message.

"Safety on a horse farm requires common sense combined with a knowledge of horses and moving equipment," says John Gilliland, marketing manager of Kubota Canada. "This partnership gives us the opportunity to disseminate this knowledge to our youth. If the initiative prevents one accident or saves one life, it is a wise investment."

interactive program that promotes horse health and safety on behalf of the equine industry. The travelling road show visits equine events and venues like the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, Can-Am All Breed Equine Emporium, Ontario Equestrian Federation Annual Conference, Woodbine Entertainment and fairs throughout the countryside. To contribute to Equine Guelph's education programs, visit www.EquineGuelph.ca. - Henrietta Coole

Equine Guelph's award winning youth education centre, *EquiMania!* is a fun and

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Research

In 2008, as part of the 5th year Anniversary celebrations, Equine Guelph teamed up with the University of Guelph's Office of Research to produce a special fall edition of Research Magazine profiling an in-depth overview of current equine research – with all stories researched and written by SPARK (Students Promoting Awareness of Research Knowledge – a unique training ground for U of G students to gain experience in written communications, producing two publications annually and distributing them to a database of 3,500 government officials, research VIPs, decision makers and media).

Magazine

The special equine edition resulted in the following:

- Distribution of 35,000 (above Office of Research database was supplemented with insertion into multi-discipline horse trade publications (Canadian Sportsman, Canadian Thoroughbred, The Game and OEF's Whoa!)) and available as pdf on both Equine Guelph's and UofG's Office of Research websites
- 36 total pages – 14 pages of advertising and 26 pages of editorial
- \$31,580 in advertising revenue
- 21 advertisers (from all spectrums of the equine industry), including:
 - Quarter Horse Racing Industry Development Program, Horse Improvement Program, U of G Office of Open Learning, Farm Safety Association, SSG Gloves, OVC Teaching Hospital, Pfizer, City of Guelph, Horse Publications Group, Purina, System Fence, The Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association of Ontario, Henry Equestrian Insurance, Intercity Insurance, Ontario Agricultural College, Ontario Harness Horse Association, Alex Milne

Associates, Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society, The Game, Ontario Pet Cremations, Can-Am.

Newsletter

One issue of the 4-page, colour printed newsletter was distributed in April/09. Distribution of this newsletter has been supported by the Ontario Equestrian Federation (Whoa!) and the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association of Ontario (The Game). The newsletter has also been distributed to members of the Harness Horse Industry by inclusion in The Canadian Sportsman and to members of the Ontario Quarterhorse Racing Association by inclusion in Canadian Thoroughbred. Our current biannual distribution is over 30,000. The newsletter is also available in printable PDF format on the website.

E-news

Our bimonthly e-news and e-bulletin is used to highlight upcoming events, sponsors and new program developments. Our current subscription membership has grown to over 2,200 people. The features have been used for publication both in print and electronic form by equine industry associations and media.

Website

Equine Guelph's website continues to grow with the goal of providing resources to the horse industry including; research advances, diagnosis capabilities, educational investments and giving opportunities in a fresh way. In the past year, Equine Guelph's website has received over 54,000 visits with the most popular pages, not including the home page, being JobTrack, Sponsors, News and Education. For a complete website report, please see Appendix 11. We are planning to launch a new updated look for the website later in 2009.

Media, Seminars and Presentations, Association Targeted Communication

For a complete list of seminars and presentations given by Equine Guelph staff, please see Appendix 6. New features and articles are communicated on a regular basis to both equine industry media and associations to facilitate publication in print or electronic form. At least 188 articles have been written about the programs of Equine Guelph in the industry media (see Appendix 10), demonstrating the interest of the industry media in the programs of Equine Guelph and the efforts of the staff and Communication and Marketing Committee members.

The positive response to Equine Guelph articles continues with a broad range of the industry publications providing enhanced coverage of the programs. Regular monitoring of industry magazines, newsletters and websites continues for Equine Guelph presence and these are included in a media scrapbook. Over the past year, the programs of Equine Guelph have received coverage in the general press including; *Guelph Mercury*, *Guelph Tribune*, *The Wellington Advertiser*, *The London Free Press* and *University of Guelph's*, *At Guelph*. Equine Guelph continues to receive coverage from many Ontario-based horse industry publications such as; *Trot*, *Trot 4 Kids*, *OHHA Newsletter*, *The Rider*, *Horse Care*, *Harness Edge*, *Horse Sport*, *The Canadian Sportsman*, *Whoa!* and *The Game*. Features were also printed in Canadian horse industry publications such as; *Blaze Magazine*, *The Canadian Horse Journal*, *Horses All*, *International Thoroughbred Digest*, *Northern Horse Review*, *Western Horse Review* and *Gait Post*. In addition, Equine Guelph received coverage from international horse industry websites such as; *Harness Link* and the *Horse.com* and *TheHorse.com*.

The Ontario Equestrian Federation (OEF) continues their support of Equine Guelph with their e-broadcast program to OEF members highlighting new educational opportunities and special events. This helps build the student enrollment numbers and these efforts have increased OEF member awareness of Equine Guelph's education programs.

Information Inquiries

During 2008/09, Equine Guelph continued to address the needs of the horse industry on an individual basis through experiencing a significant increase in the number of emails, phone calls, information packages, walk-ins and letters. With the significant 16.7% growth in the horse population in Ontario, this is an important area that needs to be developed in order to meet the future demands of the industry. Equine Guelph can be the unique "portal" for the industry to help fill that on-going and increasing need for a respected information source for the industry.

Development

A. 'Helping Horses for Life' – New Development Campaign

In a partnership between Equine Guelph and the Ontario Veterinary College, a new positioning for Equine Guelph development was created last fall – *Helping Horses for Life*. This powerful tagline anchors a renewed approach to fundraising for Equine Guelph. The campaign roll-out includes:

1. Annual Campaign Appeal: In November, 2008, 17,000 appeal pieces were mailed to previous donors and an acquisition list (Ontario Equestrian Federation members). The package contained a letter and the new Equine Guelph brochure (*Helping Horses for Life* featured on the front cover). A total of **\$6,270** was raised.

2. Ontario Equestrian Federation (OEF) Annual Mailing Fundraising Program: Each year, OEF gives members an opportunity to donate to a cause. This past year, **\$10,230** was donated to Equine Guelph by OEF members.

3. Memorial Program: In this past fiscal year, **\$1,500** was raised from memorial donations via equine practitioners (received either through dated Horse Health Trust forms or Pet Trust channels). Plans are underway to formalize and aggressively sell a memorial program under the Equine Guelph banner. Marketing materials are being prepared and logistics put in place for a fall launch. All equine practitioners in Ontario will be contacted directly.

4. Equine Guelph Website: The Equine Guelph website is under construction! The new design will be launched in the fall and features the following:

- Prominent positioning for *Helping Horses for Life* on top banner
- New, fresh look
- Better exposure and improved online donating mechanism
- Development of new educational tools (that can be sponsored)
- Researcher videos
- Hoofprints (description below)

5. Hoofprints: From a grassroots perspective, *Hoofprints* is a new program in which a horse owner that has lost a horse can submit a short message and image of their horse

(along with a memorial donation). This act of remembrance will be shared with others on Equine Guelph's website.

6. Equi-Challenge: Equine Guelph is partnering with the University of Guelph and the Ontario Veterinary College to develop an annual fundraising event that will benefit a different equine cause each year. The marquee event will showcase high-profile legends competing in a unique team-style competition while crossing disciplines. Proceeds from the inaugural 2009 event will benefit the OVC Equine Sports Medicine and Reproduction Centre. In addition, Equi-Challenge will provide a networking opportunity with affluent stakeholders in the equine industry.

Summary of Designation of Funds this Fiscal Year:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Arkell Equine Centre | \$10,000 |
| Brigadier Memorial Fund - Equine | \$0 |
| Equine Guelph - Area of Greatest Need | \$10,321 |
| Equine Guelph - Education | \$27,228 |
| Equine Guelph - Horse Health Trust | \$780 |
| Equine Guelph - Hospital Renewal | \$1,335 |
| Equine Guelph - Performance | \$240 |
| Equine Guelph - Performance Centre Research | \$2,030 |
| Equine Guelph - Research | \$6,330 |
| Equine Performance Service Equipment | \$0 |
| Total | \$58,264 |

B. Corporate Sponsorship Program:

Major 2008/2009 sponsors include: Farm Safety Association, Grand River Raceway, Kubota, Pfizer, Shur-Gain and Vétoquinol. The sponsorship program has raised **\$47,000** this fiscal year. All of these sponsors have renewed sponsorship contracts for 2009/2010. In addition, Intervet/Schering-Plough has recently signed up as a new sponsor.

Financial Report

The Year End Financial Report is included in the Appendices.

Quarterly reports are produced for the Equine Guelph Advisory Council. Financial reports include forecasting of revenue and expenditure for each of the program areas, and year-to-date statements.

Equine Guelph started the year with a planned carry forward of \$293,664. Revenue totaled \$694,469 for this fiscal year with funding provided by our funding partners, donations, tuition, University contributions and sponsorship. Program expenditures totaled \$952,095 with \$591,396 allocated for distribution for research projects, \$6,700 for research support, \$182,714 spent on Education, \$125,682 on Communications and Marketing, \$35,509 on Development and \$10,024 on sponsorship projects.

Highlights and Special Events

Equine Guelph and Equine Science Instructors head East

Equine Science Certificate instructors Doug Nash and Susan Raymond represented Equine Guelph at the 2008 Can-Am Equine Emporium East, May 30 - June 2, 2008, in Windsor, Nova Scotia. Both Doug and Susan presented multiple talks each day on a range of topics including equine management and reproduction.

Play Safe. It's HorseSense!



Equine Guelph's new youth safety initiative, "Play Safe. It's HorseSense!" was proudly announced as a partnership between Farm Safety Association (Country Kids Safety Network), Kubota Canada, System Fencing and Equine Guelph and launched at the 2008 edition of the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair as part of Equine Guelph's *EquiMania!* Education Centre. It featured the Kubota Tractor Safety School, the interactive Safety Game Show and the popular Hazard Hunt in the Horse's House'. This new initiative teaches young horse enthusiasts how to stay safe around horses and farm equipment. Between kids, horses, fences, stalls and tractors, a horse farm can be a very dangerous place. Between 1990 and 2005, 63% of animal-related injuries among youth in Ontario occurred in incidents involving horses. For children aged sixteen and under, machine runovers were the predominant cause of fatal injuries at 46%. The new educational initiative from Equine Guelph shows the commitment to helping youth identify and avoid injuries while working around horses and building a safer environment within the horse industry.

EquiMania! at the Royal

Record crowds swarmed the EquiMania! exhibit in its new location at the 2008 edition of the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. Over 60,000 people visited EquiMania! featuring the launch of the new safety initiative, 'Play Safe. It's HorseSense!' Each day, kids competed in a safety trivia contest in the Spirit of the Horse Ring, tested their knowledge of tractor safety at the Kubota Safety School, searched for safety issues in the 'Hazard Hunt in the Horse's House' and wore horse hats sporting the newly branded safety message. "We had over 17,000 walking billboards of our safety message with kids wearing the horse hats," says Dean Anderson, executive director of the Farm Safety

Association. "It is exciting to see that a critical safety message can be delivered in a fun and interactive way."

OEF Ride Day

In conjunction with Horse Week, the Ontario Equestrian Federation (OEF) and Equine Guelph teamed up to celebrate Equine Guelph's 5th anniversary by hosting the Annual Ride Day on June 1, 2008 at Jaybird Ranch in Rockwood. Ride Day offered activities for the whole family to enjoy, including: trail rides, lead line rides, and Equine Guelph's popular EquiMania! Education Centre. Over 30 riders came out to support Equine Guelph by hitting the trails. Riders of all experience levels, including a few participants who had never ridden a horse before, enjoyed an hour-long trail ride through meadows, forest, and water. All net proceeds raised during the day were donated to Equine Guelph.



Biosecurity Risk Calculator

Developed by Equine Guelph in partnership with Vétoquinol Canada, the biosecurity risk calculator is an online tool that allows horse owners to calculate the associated risk with their current management practices. It considers factors that increase the risk of spreading infectious disease against factors that decrease that risk on an individual farm. The Biosecurity Risk Calculator was launched at the Ontario Equestrian Federation Conference and is available through the Equine Guelph website. It has also been incorporated into the Equine Guelph's online Equine Science Certificate and Diploma programs. The calculator gives horse owners a good starting point by showing the potential risks currently present on their farm and the most practical ways to decrease that risk. "Having a biosecurity protocol is important to reducing the risk of spreading infectious disease on any horse farm", said Caroline Desforges, biosecurity and equine product manager with Vétoquinol Canada.

Milton Fall Fair

EquiMania!'s travelling Education Centre made a stop at the Milton Fall Fair in 2008. School groups and families discovered the wonderful world of horses through the interactive activities that were on display. New to horses, many kids were able to take away something new that they've learnt.

Focus on Careers

Grand River Agricultural Society generously funded a section of the "Career Corral", a display solely dedicated to careers in the horse industry, stressing the agricultural-related jobs. Funding for this project focused on creating educational material about careers in the agricultural sector that help

sustain the equine industry and the educational pathway. Highlighted careers included crop farmer, equine nutritionist, farm manager, landscape architect and environmental steward.

EquiMania! at Ajax Downs

Equine Guelph joined in the celebrations at Ajax Downs on their final day of racing on the old track. Families and industry members alike took part in the many interactive displays and educational material was on hand with EquiMania!.

Equine Guelph 5th Anniversary Celebrations

Equine Guelph played host to a 5th Anniversary 'Celebration of Partnerships' dinner at Tralee Estates in Caledon, ON. Over 100 industry leaders and partners assembled on a night to remember and celebrate the accomplishments of Equine Guelph and discuss plans for the next five years. The gathering was a veritable 'who's who' of the equine industry, with all disciplines coming together in a unique social setting to trade horse stories. Dr. Alastair Summerlee, president of the University of Guelph and Dr. Elizabeth Stone, dean of the OVC both acknowledged the importance of industry partnerships and recognized the outstanding contribution of the collaborators that have made Equine Guelph possible: E.P. Taylor Research Fund, Equine Canada, The Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association of Ontario, Ontario Equestrian Federation, Ontario Harness Horse Association, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Ontario Racing Commission, OVC, Standardbred Canada and U of G.

Equine Guelph Researcher Award



The Equine Guelph Researcher Award was announced in 2008 at the "Celebration of Partnership" dinner. This award will recognize an outstanding U of G researcher as voted by the industry. The award is a bronze statue of the "Mare and Foal" – the icon of Equine Guelph – sculpted by Alec Hughes.

EquiMania! at the Can-Am All Breeds Equine Emporium

Spring fever brought out the horse lover in everyone at EquiMania featured at the 2009 Can-Am All Breeds Equine Emporium. Even though it was March break, learning still abounded at EquiMania!. Kids of all ages were eager to soak in more about horses: how to braid a tail, potential careers in the horse industry, barn and tractor safety, identifying horse bones, equine nutrition, information on parasites and more. New this year was the interactive safety game show that took place in the main auditorium.

Ontario Racing Commission workshop

Equine Guelph was invited to participate in an Ontario Racing Commission workshop for investigative staff. Topics included horse behaviour, introductory anatomy and nutrition offered in an interactive format that generated positive response from those attending.

Summary

The accomplishments and forward development that has been outlined in this document reflect the investment of the horse industry and the university and, as important, the hard work and many contributions of the dedicated people from the University of Guelph and the horse industry in service to the equine industry. The vision that resulted in the formation of Equine Guelph in July, 2003, built a Centre for the horse owner at the University of Guelph. The common goal, to provide services for the horse industry and to provide funding for equine research and supporting programs has shown a pathway of strong development over the last six years. Working together, we have strengthened the equine research program and it has achieved notable success and international attention for its researchers. We have greatly expanded on the education and training opportunities for the individual which helps support the industry and the health and well-being of horses.

Although the current recession has had an impact on the previous growth of the industry, we are poised to move forward in a strong position as the economic situation recovers. Equine Guelph will work hard with its partners, E.P. Taylor Equine Research Fund, the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association of Ontario, the Ontario Equestrian Federation, the Ontario Harness Horse Association, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the Ontario Racing Commission and the University of Guelph, to offer programs and services that will aid in that recovery and help strengthen the equine industry moving forward.

Sincere thanks are due to the partners, the sponsors, the dedicated individuals who are working on committees, and the support from donors and corporate sponsors. Their support is critical to the ongoing development.

A partnership with a strong commitment from all partners has a strong future and the investment that has been made by the industry and University has given a strong return on the investment - strong advances in equine research, equine healthcare and education and training of the industry have been the result. The renewal of that commitment by all partners assures the equine industry that more accomplishments are in the future.

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Appendix 2: Equine Guelph Partners

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Appendix 4: Research Projects for 2008-2009

New Projects: (\$319,396)

Evaluation of broad range real time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for diagnosis of septic arthritis

Investigator: *Dr. S. Weese*

Ultrasonography and histopathology of arytenoid cartilage lesions in horses with arytenoid chondritis

Investigator: *Dr. H. Chalmers*

Determination of the presence of opioid receptors on bone tissue in horses and their binding to morphine

Investigator: *Dr. A. Valverde*

Comparison of cardiovascular function in isoflurane-anesthetized horses administered lidocaine and medetomidine constant rate infusions during elective and emergency surgery

Investigator: *Dr. A. Valverde*

Magnetic resonance imaging evaluation of SPIO labelled equine mesenchymal stem cells and in vivo tracking SPIO labelled equine stem cell therapy in tendonitis model.

Investigator: *Dr. R. Cruz*

Mechanism of maintenance and loss of early pregnancy

Investigator: *Dr. K. Betteridge*

Role of vascular wall strain in arterial calcification in horses.

Investigator: *Dr. R.J. Runciman*

Do subchondral bone and cartilage flow follow a common pathway in early stage post-traumatic osteoarthritis?

Investigator: *Dr. A. Cruz*

The effects of racetrack characteristics on the horse-hoof-track interactions in Standardbred horses.

Investigator: *Dr. J. Thomason*

Proliferate potential, tri-lineage potency and allogenic immunogenic evaluation of equine cord blood stem cells

Investigator: *Dr. D. Betts*

Functions of equine clara cells secretory protein

Investigator: *Dr. D. Bienzle*

Continuing Projects- Second Year Allocation (\$179,300)

Non-Invasive surveillance of cannon bone and joint health in racehorse by quantitative ultrasound and biomarkers.

Investigator: *Dr. A. Cruz*

Oral vaccination of foals using a mutant strain of *Rhodococcus equi* 103.

Investigator: *Dr. J. Prescott*

Study on the pathogenesis of arterial calcification in horses (Death Registry) and its potential clinical implications.

Investigator: *Dr. L. Viel*

Evaluation of commercially available immunoassay for the diagnosis of *Clostridium difficile* – associated diarrhea in horses.

Investigator: *Dr. H. Staempfli*

Genetic analysis of cardiac ion channels in Standardbred horses with lone atrial fibrillation

Investigator: *Dr. B. Hanna*

Clinical signs and mechanisms of airway inflammation of equine rhinitis A virus with experimentally infected horses

Investigator: *Dr. L. Viel*

*Evaluation of the survival of *Streptococcus equi* on environmental surfaces under normal outdoor conditions

Investigator: *Dr. S. Weese*

** This 2 year requested was combined into 1 for this project*

TOTAL FUNDED PROJECTS: = \$498,696

Lay Summary of New Research Projects for 2008-2009

Mechanism of maintenance and loss of early pregnancy (*Dr. Betteridge*)

This study investigates how the horse embryo attaches to the endometrium (lining of the uterus) during the critical third week of pregnancy in order to understand the mechanism behind embryo attachment in the mare. At this stage the embryo is still enclosed in a 'capsule' and is known as a conceptus. During the study, conceptuses and endometrium will be collected from both normal and "failing" pregnancies in order to identify changes in proteins, steroid hormones and other molecules that change in the conceptus and uterus during this period. Previous studies have identified target molecules that help us understand how the embryo exchanges signals with the mare and allows the embryo to attach to the uterus. Analyzing the presence and absence of the target molecules in normal and failing pregnancies will help assess the significance of any differences found. The work will help explain conceptus interaction with the endometrium that is essential to pregnancy maintenance and which, when disrupted, results in pregnancy failure. This will be key to the development of diagnostic tests of reproductive health and, possibly, to new treatments for infertility.

Evaluation of broad range real time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for diagnosis of septic arthritis (*Dr. Weese*)

Septic arthritis, a bacterial infection of the joint, is a common and potentially devastating problem in adult horses and foals. Rapid institution of appropriate therapy is critical. An important factor is prompt identification of the bacterium that is causing the infection, so that an appropriate antibiotic therapy can be started. However, bacterial culture can often be falsely negative with long wait time for culture results. Molecular diagnostic methods may be better alternatives to traditional culture tests. This study will use real time PCR and DNA sequencing to detect bacterial DNA in samples from septic joints. This method allows for detection of small numbers of bacteria, bacteria that cannot be grown using standard culture methods and bacteria that may be poorly viable in a sample but still the cause of infection. If validated, real time PCR and sequencing could provide accurate and rapid testing for the cause of joint infections, and facilitate timely use of appropriate antibiotic therapy.

Determination of the presence of opioid receptors on bone tissue in horses and their binding to morphine (*Dr. Valverde*)

Orthopedic pain is a common occurrence in horses that suffer from a wide range of injuries including fractures, tendon and ligament breakdowns, and synovial sepsis. Controlling pain is of paramount importance for the welfare of the horse. Several modalities of analgesia are available if pain originates in the hindlimbs, including peripheral nerve blocks, systemic analgesics, and epidural techniques. The latter modality is the most effective in avoiding whole body effects from the drugs and providing analgesic effects of long duration. Currently the only available method of providing analgesic management to the forelimbs and thereby avoiding systemic side effects is with a peripheral nerve blocks. Although peripheral nerve blocks with local anesthetic agents

completely desensitise the leg, this can lead to the horse taking a bad step and potentially causing an injury. Modern techniques used in people for pain control originating from extremities involve the use of low dose of opioid analgesics administered topically on bones and joints. This could represent an alternative pain therapy for horses to avoid interference with leg mobility but allow effective pain control. This study will investigate the feasibility of morphine administration to bones of horses' extremities in exerting an analgesic effect as it has been described for people.

Comparison of cardiovascular function in isoflurane-anesthetized horses administered lidocaine and medetomidine constant rate infusions during elective and emergency surgery (Dr. Valverde)

General anesthesia in horses is associated with significant risk. Anesthetic deaths have been estimated at approximately 1 case for every 100 anesthetics when inhalational anesthetics are used as the main component to maintain general anesthesia, whereas injectable anesthetics alone decrease mortality 3-fold. In addition, mortality is 9 times higher in sick (e.g., colic) than in healthy anesthetized horses. Mortality associated with general anesthesia is usually due to cardiac arrest and fractures. Since mortality is lower in horses that are anesthetized and maintained with injectable anesthetics, it is possible that a combination of injectable anesthetics, throughout the anesthetic period, with inhalation anesthesia will result in a more stable cardiovascular system in horses compromised due to disease. This study will compare cardiovascular function in sick and healthy horses undergoing general anesthesia with an anesthetic protocol that combines injectable and inhalational anesthetics.

Magnetic resonance imaging evaluation of SPIO labelled equine mesenchymal stem cells and in vivo tracking SPIO labelled equine stem cell therapy in tendonitis model. (Dr. R. Cruz)

Previously, the only way to evaluate the location and viability of transplanted cells was by means of surgery or final euthanasia of experimental animals. Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is currently widely used for clinical diagnosis due to its exquisite property to image and show differences among different kinds of soft tissues as well as skeletal tissue and associated structures. MRI imaging is based on changes in magnetic characteristics of soft tissues and certain substances. Soft tissue cells can be labeled with Superparamagnetic iron oxide (SPIO) and identified by MRI. Therefore soft tissue cells such as Mesenchymal Stem Cells (MSCs) and other pluripotential stem cells can be labeled with SPIO and then transplanted into an animal model to track the localization of the cells by means of MRI. This study will evaluate the feasibility of labeling equine bone marrow derived mesenchymal stem cells with SPIO and to evaluate the applicability of MRI to monitor and track SPIO labelled cells after transplantation into live horses with a tendon injury.

Role of vascular wall strain in arterial calcification in horses. (Dr. Runciman)

Pulmonary artery calcification is a process where calcium is deposited within the walls of the pulmonary artery found in the horses lung. In one recent study 27% of all surveyed thoroughbreds were found to have the condition. Calcium deposits tend to stiffen the artery wall and have been linked to premature death in horses. The mechanism regulating calcification of the artery is not

currently known although current hypotheses include biochemical factors, a high calcium diet, and arterial geometry. The pulmonary artery is a highly branched structure having areas of increased stress and strain within its walls. The purpose of this study is to determine the mechanical effects of arterial geometry and calcification on the pulmonary artery wall. MR images of an artery under pressure (during exercise and at rest) will be taken to develop computer models. This model will then be used to investigate detailed wall stresses and strains in the pulmonary artery.

The effects of racetrack characteristics on the horse-hoof-track interactions in Standardbred horses. *(Dr. Thomason)*

How much do racing and training track surfaces contribute to injury and lameness in Standardbred horses? It is known that training intensity, hoof shape, conformation, shoe type, and the different properties of training and racing tracks are among the many factors that predispose an animal for injury. This study will evaluate the variation in track hardness and surface roughness, changes in track profile from straight to curve, and test whether these track measurements affect two important measurements of loading on the hoof: the accelerations of the hoof at impact and the peak forces at midstance. Data from the track will be combined with laboratory studies that mimic the loading conditions on cadaver limbs and determine corresponding stresses and strains in the bones of the foot (cannon, long pastern). The outcome of this study will be a better understanding in the role of the racetrack in lameness and breakdown of harness horses.

Proliferate potential, tri-lineage potency and allogenic immunogenic evaluation of equine cord blood stem cells *(Dr. Betts)*

The core objective of this research is to find the most suitable stem cell to treat joint cartilage defects in horses. It is generally recognized that cartilage lesions over a certain size do not heal spontaneously and that there is no universal treatment for cartilage defects. Comparative studies of human stem cells from bone marrow, fat and cord blood have shown that cord blood stem cells are difficult to isolate, but may be less immunogenic, more potent and have a longer life span than stem cells from fat and bone marrow. Stem cells from foal umbilical cord blood were recently isolated and have demonstrated their potential to form bone, cartilage and fat in petri dishes. The studies outlined in this proposal aim to optimize the procedures for the isolation of equine mesenchymal stem cells (eMSCs) from umbilical cord blood. MSCs from cord blood will be compared to MSC derived from adipose tissue and bone marrow in terms of its proliferation and differentiation potential. These three different stem cell sources will be evaluated for their immunological profile and immunogenicity and for potential allogenic (use in another horse than the one donating the stem cells) stem cell-based therapies in the horse.

Functions of equine clara cells secretory protein *(Dr. Bienzle)*

Horses that are stabled indoors are prone to develop a lung disease called Recurrent Airway Obstruction (RAO) or "heaves". This disease is caused by an allergic-type reaction to mould spores and bacterial components in dusty air associated with poor quality hay or bedding. Affected horses have lung inflammation that subsides when they are housed outdoors or treated with specific drugs, and recurs when they are exposed to dusty air. The purpose of the study is to determine why

horses are particularly prone to this type of lung inflammation and how the condition could be best diagnosed and treated early on. A key protein, CCSP has been identified and is involved in countering lung inflammation. CCSP is markedly decreased in horses with RAO. Most unusually, horses have 3 copies of the gene for CCSP, and each produces a slightly different protein. This study will determine which CCSP genes are expressed in the lung, what the functions of the different proteins are, and why inflammation progresses in horses despite extra copies of CCSP. It is a belief that horses that develop RAO express a gene that is not effective in countering lung inflammation.

Do subchondral bone and cartilage flow follow a common pathway in early stage post-traumatic osteoarthritis? *(Dr. A. Cruz)*

Chip fractures and arthritis are the most common causes of lameness costing the horse industry close to \$1 billion. The bone immediately beneath the cartilage known as the subchondral bone (SCB) is thought to play an important role in the disease mechanism, but it is uncertain whether cartilage or SCB injury is the primary player. In many cases, horses had well-established arthritis without detectable SCB lesions, while others had severely affected SCB without cartilage lesions. To understand the significance of an early diagnosis of SCB disease, it would be advantageous to identify the sequence of events leading to arthritis and how SCB and cartilage respond to impact trauma. This study plans to investigate the changes occurring in cartilage and SCB in early stages of arthritis using a post-traumatic osteoarthritis model. Understanding the mechanisms leading to irreversible arthritis and correlating them with biomarkers in synovial fluid will allow us to identify very early disease and in this manner draft potential interventions to prevent it.

Evaluation of the survival of *Streptococcus equi* on environmental surfaces under normal outdoor conditions *(Dr. S. Weese)*

Streptococcus equi is the cause of strangles, a common and often highly frustrating disease, which can occur both sporadically and in outbreaks. Management of affected animals and their environment can be problematic, both because of the nature of the pathogen and because of the lack of important information in key areas. Direct contact with infected or colonized horses is believed to be the main sources of infection, but these horses can shed large numbers of *S. equi* in nasal discharge or pus, and this raises concerns about the role of the farm environment in disease transmission. The proposed study will evaluate *S. equi* survival on fencing and feed container surfaces under normal outdoor environmental conditions and will provide appropriate infection control protocols.

Clinical signs and mechanisms of airway inflammation of equine rhinitis A virus in experimentally infected horses *(Dr. L. Viel)*

Recently a 2 1/2 year study on the prevalence of Equine Influenza Virus, Rhinovirus and Herpes Virus in respiratory outbreaks of yearlings and young racing horses in Ontario was completed. Of interest, all horses positive for Influenza virus were also positive for rhinovirus-1. Until now, rhinovirus had been considered to play an insignificant role in the complex of respiratory viral infections. As a result, little is known about its clinical manifestation and effects on the respiratory

airway passages. The present work will undertake a systematic study on how the virus infects the airways, the short and long term consequence of the infections and ultimately the introduction of this virus in commercially available vaccine products.

Analysis of cardiac ion channels in horses with lone atrial fibrillation (*Dr. B. Hanna*)

Ion channels are transmembrane proteins that produce electric signals in excitable tissues such as nerve, heart and skeletal muscle. Some humans with lone atrial fibrillation have dysfunctional cardiac ion channels that interfere with signal conduction in the atria. The purpose of the present study is to examine cardiac ion channel structure and function in horses with lone atrial fibrillation, in an effort to identify the cause of the disorder. This work may lead to improved diagnostic tests for the disorder.

Evaluation of a commercially available immunoassay for the diagnosis of *Clostridium difficile*-associated diarrhea in horses (*Dr. H. Staempfli*)

Clostridium difficile has been implicated as a causative agent in equine diarrhea and thus, as an enteric pathogen in adult horses. Acute diarrhea in the horse is often fatal, has been associated with important morbidity, and therefore is a cause of important economic losses. The initiating cause of diarrhea in horses remains often undiagnosed. The proposed study will evaluate the performance of a commercially available immunoassay test (TechLab® *C. difficile* Tox A/B II Immunoassay (EIA) kit) and determine the sensitivity and specificity of this test for rapid diagnosis of *C. difficile* in horses.

Study of the pathogenesis of arterial calcification in horses and its potential clinical implications (*Dr. L. Viel*)

The Ontario Racing Commission created the Death Registry Program in order to investigate the causes of death or reasons for euthanasia in racing horses. Using a standardized pathology examination protocol for the cardiovascular system, vascular lesions were found in arteries such as the aorta and pulmonary vessels in approximately 30% of those horses. The cause of death appears to be the result of vascular wall rupture leading to massive haemorrhage. The objective of this study is to determine the prevalence, causes and pathogenesis process involved in vascular degeneration of large arteries in racing horses.

Oral vaccination of foals using a mutant strain of *Rhodococcus equi* 103 (*Dr. J. Prescott*)

Rhodococcus equi, is a major pathogen of foals aged 1 to 6 months that causes abscesses in the lung. Current prophylaxis against infection, including administration of hyperimmune plasma against *R. equi* and environmental management, is only partially effective. Therefore, additional protection by vaccination is needed to further decrease the incidence of this disease. Previous efforts to produce an effective *R. equi* vaccine have been thus far unsuccessful. The present study will attempt to develop a vaccine using a new strategy through mutating genes of a killed but metabolically active bacteria.

Non-invasive surveillance of cannon bone and joint health in racehorses by quantitative ultrasound and biomarkers *(Dr. A. Cruz)*

This project is part of a larger ongoing program to identify and prevent catastrophic bone failure and musculoskeletal wastage in thoroughbred racehorses. The project will investigate and monitor the cannon bones and joint health of 2 and 3 year old racehorses and will determine their response to exercise. In the last two years we have identified from post-mortem specimens (death registry program) quantitative ultrasound locations in the cannon bone of racehorses that could predict bone failure and abnormal remodelling. Our findings showed severe joint diseases of over 70% associated with subchondral bone disease in the fetlock joint. The present study will use the techniques and knowledge acquired from the previous study and evaluate the cannon bones of thirty-two 2 and 3 year-olds racehorses on a monthly basis during the racing season for two consecutive years.

Appendix 5: Research Proposals for 2008- 2009

New Projects: (\$208,731)

Laryngeal Ultrasound as Novel Diagnostic Technique for Recurrent Laryngeal Neuropathy ("Roaring")

Investigator: *Dr. H. Chalmers*

Evaluation of Two Sedation/Analgesia Protocols to Assist Ventilatory Support of Critically Ill Equine neonate

Investigator: *Dr. C. Kerr*

Expression of cytokines following extracorporeal shockwave treatment in the horse

Investigator: *Dr. J. Koenig*

The use of intravenous lidocaine with field anaesthesia and analgesia practices for castration in horses

Investigator: *Dr. M. Sinclair*

Devising a method for examining limb mechanics under racing conditions: a pilot study

Investigator: *Dr. J. Thomason*

Identification of bacteriophages for elimination of *Streptococcus equi* and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA)

Investigator: *Dr. S. Weese*

Effect of local anesthetic deposition into structures of the foot on subsequent magnetic resonance images

Investigator: *Dr. N. Cribb*

Diffusion of Cryoprotectants into equine embryos

Investigator: *Dr. T. Chenier*

Continuing Projects: (\$192,394)

Mechanisms of maintenance and loss of early pregnancy

Investigator: *Dr. K. Betteridge*

Magnetic resonance imaging evaluation of SPIO labelled equine mesenchymal stem cells and in vivo tracking SPIO labelled equine stem cell therapy in tendonitis model

Investigator: *Dr. R. Cruz*

Equine rhinitis A virus (ERAV). Molecular characterization and pathogenesis in the airways of experimentally infected pony foals

Investigator: *Dr. L. Viel*

Functions of equine clara cell secretory protein

Investigator: *Dr. D. Bienzle*

Arrhythmia involvement in poor performance

Investigator: *Dr. P. Physick-Sheard*

Proliferate potential, tri-lineage potency and allogenic immunogenic evaluation of equine cord blood stem cells

Investigator: *Dr. D. Betts*

Proliferate potential, tri-lineage potency and allogenic immunogenic evaluation of equine cord blood stem cells

Investigator: *Dr. L. Viel & Dr. A. Hayes*

Comparison of cardiovascular function in isoflurane-anesthetized horses administered lidocaine and

medetomidine constant rate infusions during elective and emergency surgery

Investigator: *Dr. A. Valverde*

Determination of the presence of opioid receptors on bone tissue in horses and their binding to morphine

Investigator: *Dr. A. Valverde*

TOTAL FUNDED PROJECTS: = \$401,125

Appendix 6: Presentation and Talks given by Equine Guelph

Presentations & Talks by Gayle Ecker

“Equine Guelph”, REACH open house, *May 4*

“EquiMania! The Youth Education Program from Equine Guelph”, Mohawk Community Event, *May 10*

“Me, You and Horses”, Mohawk Community Event, *May 10*

“The Educational Programs of Equine Guelph”, BBRM Orientation day at UofG, *May 14*

“The Educational Programs of Equine Guelph”, OVC Clinicians meeting, *May 30*

“Me, You and Horses”, HorsePlay Event, Mohawk Raceway, *May 31*

“Educational Pathways for the Horse Owner”, Ontario Equestrian Federation Trail Ride Day, *June 1*

“The Horse Health Check: A part of the horse owner’s toolkit for health”, Health Land for Healthy Horses workshop, Caledon, ON, *June 7*

“Equine Anatomy”, OHHA Youth Camp, Mohawk Raceway, *July 11*

“Equine Guelph”, Community Day at Woodbine Racetrack, *July 12*

“The REACH/Equine Guelph Relationship”, REACH groundbreaking ceremony, Clinton, ON, *July 23*

“The Educational Programs of Equine Guelph”, New Zealand Standardbred Tour, *July 23*

“Horse Care and Anatomy”, OHHA Youth camp, Clinton Racetrack, *August 28*

“Horse Owner Education Programs”, Spruce Meadows Masters, *September 3*

“Me, You and Horses” anatomy presentation, Grand River Raceway, *October 5*

“The Horse Health Check”, Ontario Equestrian Federation Education Seminar, *November 30*

“Equine Exercise Physiology” Ontario Equestrian Federation Education Seminar, *November 30*

“Finding your educational pathway in the equine industry”, Grey-Bruce Farmers Week, Elmwood, ON, *January 11*

“Finding your educational pathway in the equine industry”, Grey-Bruce Farmers Week, Elmwood, ON, *January 11*

“The Horse Health Check”, Grey-Bruce Farmers Week, Elmwood, ON, *January 11*

“Developing your career in the equine industry”, UofG Equestrian Club Annual Careers Night, *January 21*

“Effective Strategies to Maintain Hydration and Electrolyte Balance”, North East Endurance Riders Annual Conference Keynote Speaker, Bend, OR, *January 29-February 1*

“Top 10 Mistakes Riders Make: Lessons Learned from Endurance Research”, North East Endurance Riders Annual Conference Keynote Speaker, Bend, OR, *January 29-February 1*

“Demystifying the Art of Conditioning: Balancing the Art with the Science”, North East Endurance Riders Annual Conference Keynote Speaker, Bend, OR, *January 29-February 1*

“An Introduction to Endurance Riding” and “Monitoring the dehydration and electrolyte balance in your endurance horse”, Pony Club presentations, *February 15*

“An introduction to horse nutrition”, ORC Investigators meeting, Equine Guelph, *March 31*

Presentations & Talks by Susan Raymond

“Air Quality in the Stable” and “EquiMania! & Beyond, Equine Guelph’s Educational Programs”, Can-Am Equine All Breeds Emporium, Windsor, Nova Scotia, *May 30 - June 1, 2008*

“A breath of fresh air, horse housing for horse health”, Healthy Lands for Healthy Horses workshop, Caledon, Ontario, *June 7, 2008*

“Environmental control of respiratory diseases in horses.”, University of Guelph, undergraduate course – Environmental Management and Animal Health, Guelph, Ontario, *November 25, 2008*

“Air Quality in the Stable” and “Biosecurity on Horse Farms”, Ontario Equestrian Federation Annual Conference, Mississauga, Ontario, *November 28 – 30, 2008*

“Hazard hunt in the horse’s house”, Mount Nemo Pony Club, Hamilton, Ontario, *January 25, 2009*

“Equine Guelph’s Education and Communication Programs”, Investment in the health and welfare of the Standardbred Industry, presented to the Ontario Harness Horse Association Board of Directors, Mississauga, Ontario, *January 30, 2009*

“Reduce your hoofprint, Self-assessment of your environmental performance as a horse farm owner”, Healthy Lands for Healthy Horses workshop, Goodwood, Ontario, *April 4, 2009*

Appendix 7: Educational Offerings by Equine Guelph in 2008-2009

Educational Courses offered by Equine Guelph and Office of Open Learning

May, 2008

Equine Behaviour (Instructors: *Gayle Ecker, Uta VonBorstel*)
Groom One (Instructor: *Doug Nash*)
Growth and Development (Instructor: *Doug Nash*)
Management of the Equine Environment (Instructor: *Dr. Susan Raymond*)

September, 2008

Equine Functional Anatomy (Instructors: *Dr. Jeff Thomason, Babak Faramarzi*)
Equine Health & Disease Prevention (Instructor: *Ev Post*)
Equine Journalism (Instructor: *Barb Sheridan, Dr. Susan Raymond*)
Equine Nutrition (Instructor: *Dr. Kathleen Cavanagh*)
Equine Business Management (Instructor: *Melanie Prosser*)

January, 2009

Equine Exercise Physiology (Instructors: *Gayle Ecker, Dr. Mike Lindinger*)
Equine Genetics (Instructors: *Alicia Skelding, Gayle Ecker*)
Management of the Equine Environment (Instructor: *Dr. Susan Raymond*)
Equine Nutrition (Instructor: *Dr. Kathleen Cavanagh*)

Appendix 8: Summary of the Equine Studies program

Equine Science Certificate

In 2008 - 2009 42 students were awarded Equine Science Certificates. This brings our total to 161 students who have graduated from the Equine Science Certificate program since we awarded the first certificate in June 2004.

Diploma in Equine Studies

The diploma in equine studies requires 6 core courses and 4 electives. In May 2009 changes were implemented to the Diploma program to provide students with the flexibility in choosing business management courses to complete the diploma program. These changes will be fully integrated by January 2010.

Program Requirements:

| | |
|--|------|
| Management of the Equine Environment | Core |
| Health & Disease Prevention | Core |
| Equine Nutrition | Core |
| Functional Anatomy | Core |
| Equine Behaviour | Core |
| Stewardship of the Equine Environment (NEW!) | Core |

Students can continue with the Equine Science Specialty

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Growth & Development | Elective |
| Exercise Physiology | Elective |
| Equine Genetics | Elective |

and/or combine Equine Business Management courses

| | |
|---|----------|
| Equine Business Management | Elective |
| Marketing & Communications in the Equine Industry | Elective |
| Finance & Risk Management | Elective |
| The Equine Industry | Elective |
| Equine Journalism | Elective |
| Equine Event Management | Elective |

In 2009 we awarded our first Diploma in Equine Studies to Lynn Zito. There are currently 30 students who will be eligible for the diploma at the end of the F09 semester.

Certificate in Equine Business Management

The Certificate in Equine Business Management requires 5 core courses and 2 electives. Development of the courses in this certificate will be completed in January 2010. Allowing our first certificate to be awarded in April 2010.

Program Requirements:

| | |
|---|----------|
| Management of the Equine Environment | Core |
| Equine Business Management | Core |
| Marketing & Communications in the Equine Industry | Core |
| Finance & Risk Management | Core |
| The Equine Industry | Core |
| Equine Journalism | Elective |
| Equine Event Management | Elective |
| Stewardship of the Equine Environment | Elective |

Groom One Certificates

In 2009 we awarded 11 Groom One Certificates.

2008 - 2009 Student Registration Profile

During the 2008 - 2009 academic year we had 380 individual students in the online certificate and diploma programs.

Registrations by Program

| Course | Session | Enrollment |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Management of the Equine Environment | S08 | 60 |
| Equine Behaviour | S08 | 61 |
| Growth & Development | S08 | 62 |
| Equine Journalism | F08 | 46 |
| Equine Nutrition | F08 | 57 |
| Functional Anatomy | F08 | 57 |
| Health & Disease Prevention | F08 | 62 |
| Equine Business Management | F08 | 49 |
| Equine Genetics | W09 | 60 |
| Exercise Physiology | W09 | 56 |
| Equine Nutrition | W09 | 56 |
| Management of the Equine Environment | W09 | 58 |

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Total | 684 |
|--------------|------------|

Workshop Registrations

| Course | Session | Enrollment |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| A Guided Tour of Equine Anatomy | W09 | 22 |
| Advanced Equine Anatomy | W09 | 11 |
| The Horse & the Grey Flannel Suit | S08 | 23 |
| Total | | 56 |

Groom One Online - Phase Three

| Course | Session | Enrollment |
|------------------|---------|------------|
| Groom One Online | S08 | 23 |
| Total | | 23 |

Where are our students coming from?

Canadian Students

| Student numbers | |
|-----------------|------------|
| BC | 33 |
| AB | 37 |
| SK | 2 |
| MB | 7 |
| ON | 238 |
| PQ | 10 |
| ATL | 9 |
| YT | 2 |
| NU | 2 |
| | |
| Total | 340 |

US Students

| Student numbers | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| OR | 2 |
| ME | 1 |
| OH | 6 |
| NC | 2 |
| NJ | 2 |
| FL | 2 |
| CO | 1 |
| NY | 1 |
| TX | 4 |
| PA | 2 |
| WI | 1 |
| NV | 1 |
| WA | 1 |
| TN | 1 |
| Total | 27 |

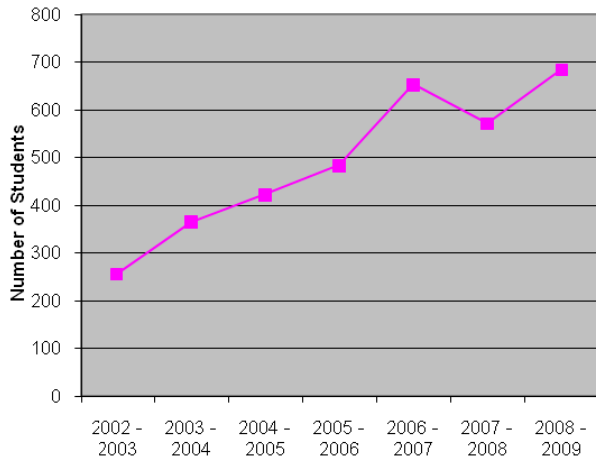
World Students

| Student numbers | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| POL | 1 |
| ZEA | 1 |
| ARG | 1 |
| SPA | 1 |
| UAE | 1 |
| EGY | 1 |
| ITA | 1 |
| KUW | 1 |
| SWI | 1 |
| HON | 1 |
| AUS | 1 |
| LITH | 1 |
| DEN | 1 |
| Total | 13 |

Ontario continues to be our leading location of Equine Studies students with 67.6 % of registered students

Equine Studies Yearly Registrations

Equine Studies Yearly Registrations



| Year | # of reg | Capacity | % |
|-------------|----------|----------|-------|
| 2002 - 2003 | 256 | 240 | 106.6 |
| 2003 - 2004 | 365 | 360 | 101.3 |
| 2004 - 2005 | 422 | 480 | 87.9 |
| 2005 - 2006 | 483 | 540 | 89.4 |
| 2006 - 2007 | 653 | 760 | 85.9 |
| 2007 - 2008 | 572 | 600 | 95.3 |
| 2008 - 2009 | 684 | 710 | 96.5 |

Number of Courses offered each year

| Year | Courses |
|-------------|---------|
| 2002 - 2003 | 4 |
| 2003 - 2004 | 6 |
| 2004 - 2005 | 8 |
| 2005 - 2006 | 9 |
| 2006 - 2007 | 13 |
| 2007 - 2008 | 10 |
| 2008 - 2009 | 12 |

Different individual courses available

| Year | Courses |
|-------------|---------|
| 2002 - 2003 | 3 |
| 2003 - 2004 | 4 |
| 2004 - 2005 | 6 |
| 2005 - 2006 | 7 |
| 2006 - 2007 | 8 |
| 2007 - 2008 | 7 |
| 2008 - 2009 | 11 |

Appendix 9: Equine Guelph's Promotional Events

Displays for Equine Guelph programs

Mohawk – EquiMania!, May 10th, 2008

The Horse & the Grey Flannel Suit: Equine Assisted Leadership Training, May 26th, 2008

Can-Am All Breeds Equine Emporium, East, May 30th – June 1st, 2008

Mohawk Family Day – EquiMania!, May 31st, 2008

Horse Week in Canada, June 1st – 7th, 2008

Equine Guelph / Ontario Equestrian Federation Ride Day, June 1st, 2008

Woodbine Family Area - EquiMania!, July - August (weekends), 2008

Spruce Meadows, September 3rd – 7th, 2008

Mane Event, Chiliwack, BC, October 17th – 19th, 2008

Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, Toronto, ON, November 7th – 16th, 2008

Ontario Equestrian Federation Annual Conference, November 28th – 30th, 2008

American Association of Equine Practitioners, San Diego, December 2008

Can-Am All Breeds Equine Emporium, London, ON, March 20th – 22nd, 2009

Ontario Racing Commission workshop, March 31st, 2009

Woodbine Entertainment Community Day, April 4th, 2009

Healthy Lands for Healthy Horses workshop, April 4th, 2009

Guided Tour of Equine Anatomy workshop, April 18th, 2009

Advanced Equine Anatomy workshop, April 19th, 2009

Appendix 10: Media Coverage Summary

| Topic | Articles (May 1,2009- April 31,2009) |
|--------------|--|
| EquiMania! | 27 |
| Research | 41 |
| Education | 47 |
| OEC | 15 |
| General | 19 |

Coverage of Special Events

| | |
|--|----|
| Biosecurity Rick Calculator | 15 |
| Equine Guelph 5 th Anniversary Celebrations | 21 |

Special magazine editions featuring EquiMania!

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Blaze News - Issue 22 | EquiMania! at Woodbine Careers in the Racing Industry |
| TROT4KIDS | Safety around the Barnyard – EquiMania! |
| Blaze Magazine - Issue 23 | Play Safe Safe. It's HorseSense |

Total Features: 188

Media Coverate List

| Date | Magazine | Article Title |
|-------------|-----------------|---|
| Jan-08 | HorseCare | Heart of a Champion |
| Jan-08 | HorseCare | Owner's Diary: The 11th Hour |
| Apr-08 | Horse Canada | Addition's to Equine Guelph's Equine Education Program |
| Apr-08 | Globe & Mail | A horse is a horse (and a trainer) in this course, of course |
| May-08 | The Rider | OEF partners with Equine Guelph to announce annual ride/drive today |
| May-08 | The Rider | Following the hoofprints of Equine Guelph |
| May-08 | The Rider | Can Am attendance increases 20% over 2007 |
| May-08 | Hoof Beats | Cellular Success |
| May-08 | HorseCare | Diarrhea can be Deadly |
| May-08 | HarnessLink.com | Equine Guelph: 5 years of industry growth |
| May-08 | TheHorse.com | Guelph horse owner's program celebrates five years |

| | | |
|--------|---------------------------|---|
| May-08 | WoodbineEntertainment.com | Following the hoofprints of Equine Guelph |
| May-08 | At Guelph | Ride Day for Equine Guelph |
| May-08 | HarnessLink.com | OEF & Equine Guelph celebrate Ride Day |
| May-08 | The Cornwall Standard | HOOFBEATS: It's time to horse around |
| May-08 | University of Guelph | Equine Guelph celebrates fifth anniversary |
| Jun-08 | The Game | Racing safety summit held at Woodbine |
| Jun-08 | Hoof Beats | Small Time |
| Jun-08 | The Rider | Riders hit the trail to celebrate Equine Guelph's fifth anniversary |
| Jun-08 | At Guelph | Take Two Bad Things and Make a Good Thing |
| Jun-08 | E-learning Pundit | Equine journalism online |
| Jun-08 | Horse Canada | New online Equine Journalism course from the University of Guelph |
| Jun-08 | HarnessLink.com | New online Equine Journalism course |
| Jun-08 | HarnessLink.com | Necropsy reveals rabies in vaccinated horse |
| Jul-08 | The Rider | New online Equine Journalism course from the University of Guelph |
| Jul-08 | The Rider | Sadinsky Report supports equine research and social responsibility |
| Jul-08 | The Rider | OEF announces conference keynote speaker |
| Jul-08 | Eastern Equine | Groom One advertisement |
| Jul-08 | Eastern Equine | Horses, not Rabbits! |
| Jul-08 | Eastern Equine | EquiMania!'s Farm Survivor Quiz |
| Jul-08 | Horse Country | New online Equine Journalism course from the University of Guelph |
| Jul-08 | Horse Country | Education advertisement |
| Jul-08 | The Game | New online Equine Journalism course from the University of Guelph |
| Jul-08 | HorseTalk | Jury still out on glucosamine use in horses |
| Jul-08 | Whoa! | President's Message |
| Jul-08 | Whoa! | Biosecurity precautions |
| Jul-08 | Whoa! | Equine Guelph's 5th anniversary |
| Jul-08 | Whoa! | Mane Events |
| Jul-08 | Whoa! | Can-Am All Breeds Equine Emporium a hit for OEF |
| Jul-08 | Whoa! | OEF Board of Directors announces retirement of Executive Director |
| Jul-08 | TheHorse.com | Understanding and Preventing Catastrophic Injuries |
| Jul-08 | Kubota.ca | New youth safety initiative |
| Jul-08 | TheHorse.com | Equine industry players come together for safety's sake |
| Jul-08 | TheHorse.com | Rapid and reliable test for diarrhea-causing toxin identified |
| Jul-08 | OVC Bulletin | Equine Guelph: Riders hit the trail to mark 5th anniversary |
| Aug-08 | The Wellington Advertiser | Proposed equine center in Puslinch could host Pan An Games |
| Aug-08 | Western Horse Review | New online Equine Journalism course from the University of Guelph |
| Aug-08 | Hoof Beats | Equine Events |
| Aug-08 | The Wellington Advertiser | Proposed equine center in Puslinch could host Pan An Games |
| Aug-08 | The Wellington Advertiser | Whitcombe: Puslinch 'ideal location' for proposed equine centre |
| Aug-08 | The Rider | Equine industry players come together for safety's sake |
| Aug-08 | StandardbredCanda.ca | Equine Guelph celebrates fifth anniversary |
| Aug-08 | HorseTalk | Tapeworm role in horse colic questioned |
| Aug-08 | HarnessLink.com | Equine Guelph's 5th anniversary |
| Aug-08 | The Wellington Advertiser | Equine Journalism now available at University of Guelph |

| | | |
|--------|------------------------------|--|
| Aug-08 | The Canadian Sportsman | Prosperity within R.E.A.C.H |
| Aug-08 | HorseTalk.co.nz | Guide to dehydration and electrolyte use in horses |
| Sep-08 | HorseCare | 10 things every horse owner should know about electrolytes |
| Sep-08 | Horse Sport | Use of electrolytes is case specific |
| Sep-08 | Western Horse Review | Probiotics - Health boon or hype? |
| Sep-08 | The Rider | Equine Guelph celebrates fifth anniversary in classic style |
| Sep-08 | The Rider | Clinton's R.E.A.C.H is education and recreational |
| Sep-08 | The Western Horse Review | Lameness diagnosis option |
| Sep-08 | The Royal Magazine | EquiMania! still horsing around...Safely! |
| Sep-08 | The Western Horse Review | Equine Education |
| Sep-08 | TheHorse.com | Canadian researchers focus on racehorse safety |
| Sep-08 | EG Newsletter | The horse and the gray flannel suit |
| Sep-08 | OVC Bulletin | Equine Guelph: Celebrating fifth anniversary in style |
| Sep-08 | At Guelph | Animals Are Us |
| Oct-08 | RoyalFair.org | Royal Agricultural Winter Fair Overview |
| Oct-08 | MiltonCanadianChampion.com | 155th fall fair turnout estimated at 26,000 |
| Oct-08 | Country Routes | Equine Guelph fifth anniversary celebration at Tralee Estate celebrate |
| Oct-08 | The Rider | Equine community comes together to celebrate Equine Guelph |
| Oct-08 | The Rider | OEF announces new Executive Director |
| Oct-08 | The Rider | Education advertisement |
| Oct-08 | The Rider | History continues to be written on the back of the horse |
| Oct-08 | The Rider | Arkell future home of the Ontario Equine Center |
| Oct-08 | The Rider | Calculating the Biosecurity Risk on Your Farm |
| Oct-08 | TROT4KIDS | Safety Issue |
| Oct-08 | Farm Safe | Farm Safety & EquiMania! at the Royal |
| Oct-08 | Whoa! | New OEF special event trailer |
| Oct-08 | Whoa! | Regional Equine & Agricultural Center of Huron |
| Oct-08 | Whoa! | 2008 Conference program offers something for everyone! |
| Oct-08 | Whoa! | Mane Events |
| Oct-08 | HarnessLink.com | Equine Guelph celebrates fifth anniversary |
| Oct-08 | TheHorse.com | Equine Guelph marks five years |
| Oct-08 | Farm Business Communications | Calculator to gauge horses' disease risks |
| Oct-08 | TheHorse.com | Equine Biosecurity Risk Calculator Coming Soon |
| Oct-08 | ExchangeMagazine.com | Ontario's focus on innovation - Studies maintain understanding of |
| Oct-08 | StandardbredCanda.ca | Coalition formed to attract Pan Am Events |
| Oct-08 | At Guelph | Study explores causes of sudden death in racing horses |
| Oct-08 | TheHorse.com | Pan American Equestrian Games could come to Ontario |
| Nov-08 | EquineGuelph.ca | New online tools help calculate risk, control infection in horses |
| Nov-08 | uoguelph.ca/news | New online tools help calculate risk, control infection in horses |
| Nov-08 | Western Horse Review | Add it up to biosecurity |
| Nov-08 | Horses All | Calculating the biosecurity risk on your farm |
| Nov-08 | The Game | Calculating the biosecurity risk on your farm |
| Nov-08 | TROT | The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair |
| Nov-08 | Hoof Beats | The Telltale Heart |

| | | |
|--------|------------------------------|---|
| Nov-08 | OVC Bulletin | Equine Guelph: Research magazine highlights achievements |
| Nov-08 | HorseCareMagazine.com | Local coalition to attract Pan Am Equestrian Event |
| Nov-08 | HorseCareMagazine.com | Study explores causes of sudden death in racing horses |
| Nov-08 | The Wellington Advertiser | Multi-million dollar Equine Center near reality for Puslinch Twp. |
| Nov-08 | ExchangeMagazine.com | U of G, City Take 'Grow Guelph' to the Royal |
| Nov-08 | At Guelph | Online calculator aims to improve horse health |
| Nov-08 | TheHorse.com | Guelph rolls out Biosecurity Risk Calculator, New Blogs |
| Nov-08 | HarnessLink.com | Two new online initiatives from Guelph |
| Nov-08 | GuelphMercury.com | Arkell purse worth \$70 million per year |
| Nov-08 | Guelph Mercury | Arkell purse worth \$70 million per year |
| Nov-08 | HorseCareMagazine.com | New online Equine Genetics course from U of G |
| Nov-08 | StandardbredCanda.ca | Online Equine Genetics course available |
| Nov-08 | TheHorse.com | Equine Guelph offers genetics course |
| Nov-08 | HorseTalk.co.nz | Artery hardening may be link in sudden racehorse deaths |
| Nov-08 | HorseTalk.co.nz | Canadian university offers online course in Equine Genetics |
| Nov-08 | HarnessLink.com | New online Equine Genetics course |
| Nov-08 | Conference Program | 2008 OEF Annual Conference Program |
| Nov-08 | Guelph Tribune | Equine center makes horse sense |
| Nov-08 | Cowpokes | World class equine center |
| Dec-08 | Down The Stretch | New online tools help calculate risk, control infection in horses |
| Dec-08 | The Game | New online Equine Genetics course |
| Dec-08 | HarnessLink.com | EquiMania! craze hits Toronto |
| Dec-08 | The Western Horse Review | EquiMania! craze hits Toronto |
| Jan-09 | The Rider | New equine career fair at Can-Am! |
| Jan-09 | The Rider | Horse news and views |
| Jan-09 | The Rider | OEF conference |
| Jan-09 | The Rider | EquiMania! craze hits Toronto |
| Jan-09 | Ontario Horse Directory 2009 | Education advertisement |
| Jan-09 | 2009 Canadian Horse Annual | Education advertisement |
| Jan-09 | The Rider | New online Equine Genetics course from the University of Guelph |
| Jan-09 | 2009 OEF Directory | EquiMania! advertisement |
| Jan-09 | The Rider | New online tools help calculate risk, control infection in horses |
| Jan-09 | The Portico | Noteworthy |
| Jan-09 | Morgan Horse Magazine | University of Guelph online tools to calculate risk of equine infection |
| Jan-09 | HorseCare | Calculated risk |
| Jan-09 | HorseCare | Hard Hearted |
| Jan-09 | Whoa! | Mane Events |
| Jan-09 | Whoa! | 2008 OEF conference - For The Love Of The Horse a success! |
| Jan-09 | Whoa! | Spirit of the Horse continues Royal tradition |
| Jan-09 | Hoof Beats | United Airways |
| Jan-09 | OVC Bulletin | Sudden death in horses explored |
| Jan-09 | Standardbredcanda.ca | Equine Guelph looking for instructors |
| Jan-09 | HarnessLink.com | Opportunity to participate in research study |
| Jan-09 | At Guelph | It's All In The Genes |

| | | |
|--------|---------------------------|---|
| Jan-09 | HorseTalk.co.nz | Research to detect early signs of mycotoxins in horses |
| Jan-09 | At Guelph | Kemptville lab to support breeding, feeding studies |
| Feb-09 | StandardbredCanda.ca | New Management course at U of G |
| Feb-09 | Western Horse Review | Education advertisement |
| Feb-09 | The Rider | OEF News: 2009 Can-Am All Breeds Equine Emporium |
| Feb-09 | The Rider | Attention horse owners - Opportunity to participate in research study |
| Feb-09 | The Canadian Sportsman | OFA Convention |
| Feb-09 | TheHorse.com | Guelph offers Equine Event Management course online |
| Feb-09 | HorseTalk.co.nz | University offers online Equine Event Management course |
| Mar-09 | The Wellington Advertiser | New Equine Event Management course being offered by Equine Guelph |
| Mar-09 | The Wellington Advertiser | Equine Guelph seeks instructors |
| Mar-09 | The Wellington Advertiser | Officials still hopeful local equine center will host Pan Am Games |
| Mar-09 | American Farriers Journal | Fueling High Performance |
| Mar-09 | standardbredcanda.ca | OEC moves ahead with plans |
| Mar-09 | TheHorse.com | MRSA awareness is mission of British Foundation |
| Mar-09 | USTrotting.com | Ontario Equine Center moves ahead with development plans |
| Apr-09 | The Game | Ontario Equine Center moves ahead with development plans |
| Apr-09 | standardbredcanda.ca | Online survey about Equine Industry |
| Apr-09 | Flyer | System Fencing Open House |
| Apr-09 | Whoa! | Healthy Lands for Healthy Horses |
| Apr-09 | The Rider | New Equine Event Management course from Equine Guelph and the |
| Apr-09 | TROT | Education opportunity |
| Apr-09 | Racing Quarterly | Groom One advertisement |
| Apr-09 | Flyer | System Fencing Open House |
| Apr-09 | Horse Sport | Educational offerings |
| Apr-09 | Horse Sport | Research at OVC |
| Apr-09 | Horse Sport | First Canadian female intercollegiate Polo team |
| Apr-09 | Horse Canada | Opportunity to participate in mycotoxin research study |
| Apr-09 | Horse Canada | Can-Am event to feature Career Fair |
| Apr-09 | Horse Canada | OVC, University of Guelph |
| Apr-09 | Horse Canada | Ontario equine education |
| Apr-09 | At Guelph | It's All In The Genes |
| Apr-09 | StandardbredCanda.ca | Equine Guelph offers online survey |
| Apr-09 | StandardbredCanda.ca | EquiManiacs unite at Can-Am |
| Apr-09 | Can-Am | Can-Am Summary |
| Apr-09 | Can-Am | Can-Am announces the first equine Career Fair |
| Apr-09 | Online Catalouge | Can-Am overview |
| Apr-09 | EquiSearch.com | Ease mounting pressures on your horse |
| Apr-09 | At Guelph | Horse sense from the ground up |
| Apr-09 | Ontario Farmer | Equestrians learn how to lessen their hoofprint on the landscape |

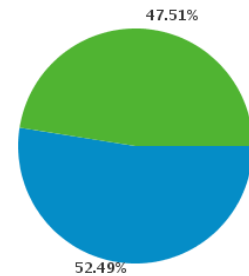
Appendix 11: Website Report

VISITORS

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1) | Total Visits | 54,853 |
| 2) | Page views | 215,351 |
| 3) | Pages per Visit | 3.93 |
| 4) | Avg. Time on Site | 00:02:49 |

NEW vs. RETURNING (54,853 visits from 2 visitor types)

| | |
|-----------|--------|
| New | 52.49% |
| Returning | 47.51% |



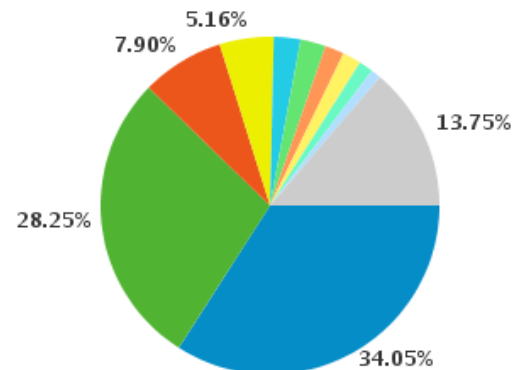
TRAFFIC

SOURCES OVERVIEW (All traffic sources sent a total of 54,853 visits)

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| ○ Direct Traffic | 28.25% |
| ○ Referring Sites (link) | 30.86% |
| ○ Search Engines | 40.89% |

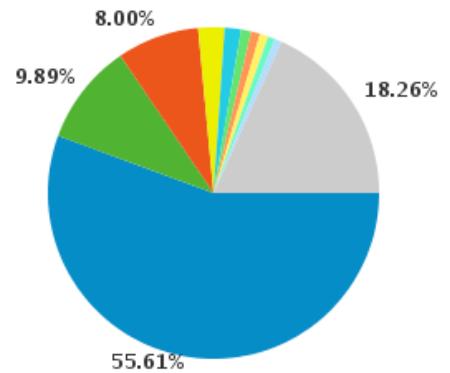
TOP TRAFFIC SOURCES (All traffic sources sent 54,853 visits via 585 sources and mediums)

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| 1. google / direct | 34.05% |
| 2. (direct) / (none) | 28.25% |
| 3. ovc.uoguelph.ca / referral | 7.90% |
| 4. hbpa.on.ca / referral | 5.16% |
| 5. live / direct | 2.54% |
| 6. yahoo / direct | 2.42% |
| 7. surveymonkey.com / referral | 1.82% |
| 8. uoguelph.ca / referral | 1.77% |
| 9. msn / direct | 1.36% |
| 10. images.google.com / referral | 0.98% |



TOP LANDING PAGES (54,853 visits entered the site through 634 pages)

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| 1. / site home page | 55.61% |
| 2. /jobtrack/jobs.php | 9.89% |
| 3. /jobtrack/index.php | 8.00% |
| 4. /about_us/sponsors.php | 2.58% |
| 5. /news/index.php?content=150 | 1.59% |
| 6. /education/workshops.php | 0.98% |
| 7. /education/index.php | 0.89% |
| 8. /cgi-bin/eg_donate.pl | 0.82% |
| 9. /education/skills.php | 0.70% |
| 10. /about_us/chair.php | 0.68% |



CONTENT

SEARCH KEYWORDS (Search sent 22,427 total visits via 8,226 keywords)

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| 1. equine guelph | 18.07% |
| 2. jobtrack | 2.81% |
| 3. guelph equine | 1.86% |
| 4. equine research centre | 1.77% |
| 5. university of guelph equine | 1.35% |
| 6. equine therapist | 1.09% |
| 7. equine | 0.98% |
| 8. www.equineguelph.ca | 0.97% |
| 9. equine studies | 0.84% |
| 10. horse jobs ontario | 0.73% |

TOP CONTENT (3,628 pages were viewed a total of 215,351 times)

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| 1. /jobtrack/jobs.php | 51,599 |
| 2. / site home page | 37,219 |
| 3. /jobtrack/index.php | 21,302 |
| 4. /education/index.php | 6,066 |
| 5. /jobtrack/resources.php | 3,793 |
| 6. /index.php | 3,308 |
| 7. /education/workshops.php | 3,295 |
| 8. /education/skills.php | 3,100 |
| 9. /about_us/sponsors.php | 2,569 |
| 10. /research/index.php | 1,916 |

Appendix 12: Donation Report (May 1, 2007 – April 30, 2009)

| | 2007-2008 | 2008-2009 |
|--|------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Annual Fund - Alumni</i> | 50.00 | 0.00 |
| <i>Equine - Annual Mailing</i> | 5,435.00 | 6,270.14 |
| <i>Equine - Annual Mailing OEF</i> | 7,022.85 | 10,229.25 |
| <i>Equine - Annual Mailing OHHA</i> | 3,825.00 | 0.00 |
| <i>Equine - Brochure</i> | 0.00 | 900.00 |
| <i>Equine - OEF phone</i> | 1,175.00 | 20.00 |
| <i>Equine - Phone Program</i> | 620.00 | 0.00 |
| <i>GRYPHON - Phone direct calls</i> | 0.00 | 75.00 |
| <i>Leadership Gift - General</i> | 50,517.60 | 20,000.00 |
| <i>PET TRUST - Alumni mailing</i> | 175.00 | 0.00 |
| <i>PET TRUST - Annual mailing</i> | 0.00 | 75.00 |
| <i>Pet Trust - Brochure</i> | 0.00 | 50.00 |
| <i>PET TRUST - General</i> | 11,095.15 | 14,711.62 |
| <i>PET TRUST - Phone Program</i> | 30.00 | 0.00 |
| <i>Phone Program - Alumni Solicitation by Phone</i> | 0.00 | 50.00 |
| <i>Special Interest - EQUINE general mailing</i> | 7,579.00 | 569.00 |
| <i>Special Interest - Equine Guelph</i> | 17,673.25 | 90.00 |
| <i>Special Interest - EQUINE Research Centre Gen</i> | 1,192.82 | 4,524.00 |
| <i>Special Interest - General</i> | 0.00 | 400.00 |
| <i>Special Interest - Memorial Funds</i> | 100.00 | 50.00 |
| <i>Special Interest - Scholarship annual reminders</i> | 0.00 | 200.00 |
| <i>Website Donation</i> | 1,640.00 | 250.00 |
| Total | \$108,131 | \$58,464 |

Appendix 13: Sponsors

Equine Guelph would like to thank the following sponsors for their contributions and support of Equine Guelph's programs.

Cassio Ribbons
Shur-Gain
System Fencing
Grand River Agricultural Society Raceway
Farm Safety Association
GiftHorse Gallery
ITSI
Intercity Insurance Services
Kubota Canada Ltd
Ontario Equestrian Federation
SSG Gloves
Standarbred Canada
System Fencing Inc.
Pfizer Animal Health
Vétoquinol
Woodbine Entertainment Group

Equine Guelph Financial Report/2008-2009
As at April 30th, 2009

Appendix 14

| | Holding Accounts | | | | | Overhead | Programs | | | | | Total Equine Guelph |
|---|------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| | E. P. Taylor | HIP | OHHA | HBPA | General Research | | Education | Communi- cations | Develop- ment | Research Support | Sponsors hip | |
| | 046075 | 045878 | 046069 | 046071 | 046960 | | 046073 | 046077 | 046079 | 046851 | 048865 | |
| REVENUE | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Funds Received from Funding Agencies | 0 | 169,965 ³ | 100,000 | 100,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 369,965 |
| Arterial Calcification Project | 0 | 93,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 93,000 |
| Donations (Alumni House) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6,916 | 0 | 5,232 | 40,000 | 10,000 | 0 | 0 | 62,148 |
| Tuition (S08,F08, W09) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 79,537 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 79,537 |
| Other University Contributions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20,000 | 0 | 0 | 20,000 |
| External Contributions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30,419 ² | 0 | 11,150 | 0 | 28,250 | 69,819 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | 0 | 262,965 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 6,916 | 0 | 115,188 | 40,000 | 41,150 | 0 | 28,250 | 694,469 |
| INTERNAL TRANSFERS between accounts: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| From Agency Fund to Overhead | (20,000) | (33,993) | (20,000) | (20,000) | 0 | 93,993 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| From Agency Fund to Program | 0 | 0 | (80,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 80,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| From Overhead to Program | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (139,110) ¹ | 0 | 62,975 | 0 | 76,135 | 0 | (0) |
| Transfer between other Funds | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15,000 | 0 | (15,000) | 0 | 0 |
| Transfer from Education to Communication | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (10,000) | 10,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Transfer from Education to Sponsorship | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (5,250) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,250 | 0 |
| Transfer from Sponsorship to Education | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (7,500) | 0 |
| TOTAL TRANSFERS | (20,000) | (33,993) | (100,000) | (20,000) | 0 | (45,117) | 72,250 | 87,975 | 0 | 61,135 | (2,250) | (0) |
| PROGRAM EXPENDITURES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Research Projects | (80,000) | (286,864) | 0 | (80,000) | (51,532) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (498,396) |
| Arterial Calcification Project | 0 | (93,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (93,000) |
| Research Support | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (6,770) | 0 | (6,770) |
| Education | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (182,714) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (182,714) |
| Communications | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (125,682) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (125,682) |
| Development | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (35,509) | 0 | 0 | (35,509) |
| Sponsorship | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (10,024) | (10,024) |
| TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENDITURES | (80,000) | (379,864) | 0 | (80,000) | (51,532) | 0 | (182,714) | (125,682) | (35,509) | (6,770) | (10,024) | (952,095) |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | (100,000) | (413,857) | (100,000) | (100,000) | (51,532) | (45,117) | (110,464) | (37,707) | (35,509) | 54,364 | (12,274) | (952,095) |
| NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE | (100,000) | (150,892) | 0 | 0 | (44,616) | (45,117) | 4,724 | 2,293 | 5,641 | 54,364 | 15,976 | (257,626) |
| FUND BALANCE, Previous Year-end | 106,861 | 1,333 | 0 | 0 | 51,532 | 45,117 | 81,236 | 7,046 | 539 | 0 | 0 | 293,664 |
| FUND BALANCE as at April 30th, 2009 | 6,861 | (149,559) | 0 | 0 | 6,916 | 0 | 85,960 | 9,339 | 6,180 | 54,364 | 15,976 | 36,038 |

1. Includes transfer of remaining 07-08 overhead (\$45,117) to Research Infrastructure Support
2. Includes Funds Received from EquiMania! Events (Manitoba Royal Winter Fair, Milton Fall Fair, Grand River)
3. HIP funds to date includes receipt of \$152,396.50 which represents 50% of approved 08/09 HIP Funds (\$358,580) with a 15% holdback as well as receipt of \$17,568.74 from 15% holdback of 07/08 research funds. Remaining \$206,210.50 of 08-09 funding still to come