

# North Carolina State College of Veterinary Medicine

## Veterinary Cardiac Genetics Laboratory

Dear Friends,

Fall 2011

As many of you are aware, we moved the lab this year to North Carolina State College of Veterinary Medicine. It has taken us a few months to get our feet back on the ground and get the lab up back to full force but I am pleased to say that we are now really back to almost normal again. I started my career at this university in 1990 and I am thrilled to be back and to tell you that this is the lab's permanent home. I won't be moving again!

We hope you will take a few minutes to check out our new website:

<http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu/vhc/csds/vcgl/index.html>

And, as always, please feel free to email me with any concerns or questions!  
(Kate\_meurs@ncsu.edu)

### **Research Updates**

#### **Doberman Pinscher Dilated Cardiomyopathy**

Last year at this time we had just released the news about the mutation that is associated with the development of cardiomyopathy in the Doberman pinscher. This mutation appears to be most important in the classic American form of the disease where the dogs have a large, dilated heart with poor heart function. In human beings there are now more than 20 genes known to cause this disease. We know that the Doberman pinscher is very likely to have at least one other cause since the German group (Dr. Gerhard Wess) found a statistical association to a different chromosomal region than we had identified. The dogs that Dr. Wess studied were more characterized by cardiac arrhythmias rather than a large dilated heart. At this time we are directing our efforts to identify a second cause for this disease in this breed.

## Great Dane Dilated Cardiomyopathy

It appears that Great Danes have their own unique mutation different from that of Doberman pinschers. We are working to understand what may lead to the development of this disease!

## Canine Cardiomyopathy Studies

## How can you help?

We are still in need of DNA samples from affected and unaffected Great Danes and Saint Bernards

Please see our Website or email me:  
[kate\\_meurs@ncsu.edu](mailto:kate_meurs@ncsu.edu) for more information

<http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu/vhc/csds/vcgl/index.html>

## Holter Monitoring Services

We continue to offer our Holter Monitoring Services but are only able to provide digital monitors at this time due to the final crash of our tape reader!  
Please see our new website with secure access for ordering:

<http://www.cardiologycarenetwork.com/>

or call Chris at 919-513-6975

## Update on Boxer Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy

After several years of focusing our research efforts on molecular genetic analysis we are making some plans to begin performing clinical studies again this spring. Stay Tuned for Updates!!

A fund has been established to help fund continued research efforts on canine cardiomyopathy. To donate, please go to:

<https://www.acs.ncsu.edu/scripts/cvm/cvm.pl> and type "cardiomyopathy/Meurs" in the "In Honor of....Name" area. Alternatively contributions can be sent to: Susan M. Lilly, CFRE NC Veterinary Medical Foundation, Inc., 1600 William Moore Road, Box 8401, Raleigh, NC 27606

**\*\* Please include a note that it is for Canine  
Cardiomyopathy**

NC State University  
Veterinary Cardiac  
Genetics Laboratory