

North Carolina State College of Veterinary Medicine

Veterinary Cardiac Genetics Laboratory

Dear Friends,

Fall 2011

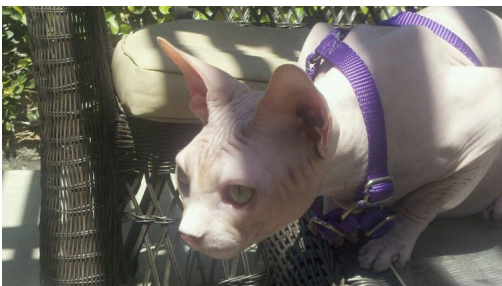
As many of you are aware, we moved the lab this year to North Carolina State College of Veterinary Medicine. It has taken us a few months to get our feet back on the ground and get the lab up back to full force but I am pleased to say that we are now really back to almost normal again. I started my career 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)



Gus Yates Fund for Sphynx Cat Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

RW SGCA Angelsark Gustave Flaubare was born July 22, 2006 and was given to his new mom on Christmas 2006 in a Christmas stocking. He was lovingly owned by Marion Yates and Laurie Schiff. He was a three-time Regional Winner (Kitten, Cat, Alter) in TICA. Gus enjoyed traveling with his mommies and hanging out with his other naked friends. He was absolutely the most lovable cat. Many remember him as "The cat who nursed on himself". He was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy on his third echocardiogram at 3 1/2 years old, in December of 2009. He lived a full year after his diagnosis. There will never be another Gus.

A fund has been established in Gus's name to help fund research on his horrible disease. To donate, please go to: <https://www.acs.ncsu.edu/scripts/cvm/cvm.pl> and type "Gus Yates/Meurs" in the "In Honor of....Name" area. Alternatively contributions can be sent to

Susan M. Lilly, CFRE NC Veterinary Medical Foundation, Inc., 4700 Hillsborough Street, Box 8401, Raleigh, NC 27606

** Please include a note that it is for Sphynx Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy



Feline Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Studies

How can you help?

We are still in need of DNA samples from affected and unaffected Sphynx, Birman and Bengals cats as well as other breeds. Please see our Website or email me: kate_meurs@ncsu.edu for more information

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

Update on Sphynx Cat Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

Sphynx cats suffer from a severe form of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (heart muscle disease) that can lead to death between 2-5 years from sudden death or suffocating heart failure. We have been working on developing a genetic test for this disease for the last several years. This year we completed a Genome Wide Association Analysis (GWAS) to attempt to identify a chromosome that contains the genetic mutation for this disease. We continue to work on this study every day. Please follow our progress on our website:

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

Cardiomyopathy in Birmans and Bengals

Cardiomyopathy also occurs in other breeds of cats as well. We continue to work with many breeds of cats who suffer from heart muscle diseases of many forms.

Birmans: We are collaborating with European cardiologists to study this disease in this breed. Very little is known about the unique aspects of Birman cardiomyopathy. We are just beginning to develop information on this breed,

NCSU Veterinary Cardiac
Genetics Laboratory