



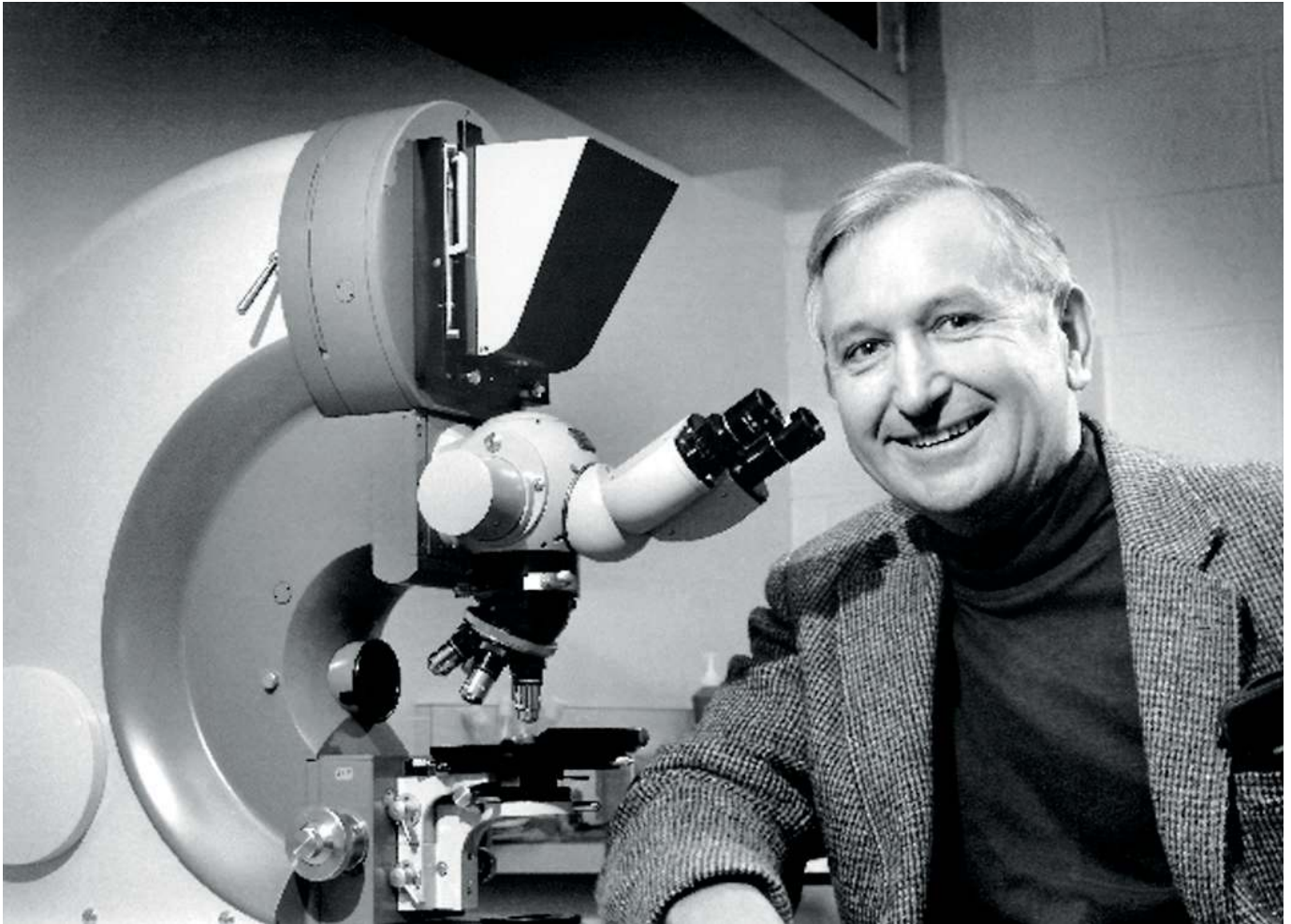
Cornell University
College of Veterinary Medicine

'SCOPES

FROM STETHOSCOPES | TO MICROSCOPES | TO THE SCOPE OF THE COLLEGE Summer 2015



INSPIRING LEADERSHIP
PEOPLE AND PROJECTS THAT ENVISION AND EMPOWER



REMEMBERING JAY GEORGI: CRAFTING SCIENCE

By Olivia Hall

Whenever Jay Georgi, DVM '51, PhD '62, looked through a microscope, he saw art as much as science. "I remember him saying of a certain egg, 'It's like a piece of Steuben glass,'" retired teaching support specialist Marguerite Frongillo, PhD, said. "His lab was an amazing place to learn about parasites."

As was his classroom. In his 25 years in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Georgi was known to memorize the names and faces of all incoming students, and if necessary, he would begin his lectures on time by chasing overly loquacious speakers out of the

room with a tune from his harmonica.

To this day, students around the country read Georgi's *Parasitology for Veterinarians* – considered a standard textbook – which he co-wrote with his wife Marion, DVM '52, and partially illustrated himself.

The former Air Force veterinarian with a background in radiation biology made his scientific mark with significant insights into the life cycles of various parasites, one of which he described in a single-author publication in *Science*.

More widely, however, Georgi is known for the "artificial dog," a flea-rearing

incubator he invented with fellow parasitologist Susan E. Wade, PhD '81, and built from Plexiglass in his workshop.

"They made a huge and lasting impact on the world of flea biology," said Dwight Bowman, PhD, professor of parasitology in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology. "Jay built all sorts of apparatus and devices to assist in his research. He was an exceptional fellow who had the brightest twinkle in his eyes of any person I have ever met."

"His lab was an amazing place to learn about parasites."
—Marguerite Frongillo, PhD

PLANTING THE SEED FOR TENURE

By Olivia Hall

Bethany Cummings, DVM, PhD, and Kathleen Kelly, DVM, PhD, both assistant professors in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, are recipients of 2013-2014 Affinito-Stewart Grants, awarded by the President's Council of Cornell Women (PCCW) to give junior women faculty a boost in their quest for tenure.

"Seed grant programs such as this one are hugely helpful in jump-starting a research program," said Cummings, who studies mechanisms by which bariatric surgery causes type 2 diabetes remission.

"Biomedical research and establishing a lab are expensive," added Kelly, whose work focuses on how

inflammatory mediators contribute to cardiac dysfunction in chronic inflammatory diseases. "I'm using this grant to fund preliminary experiments important to my transition to independent research in my field of cardiac pathophysiology."

Both researchers hope to gain valuable data and publications that will help them to secure funding from external sources in the future.

Chair of the PCCW Grants Committee Wendy Schoppert, MBA '89, for one, has every confidence in her grantees: "Bethany's work to address the epidemic of type 2 diabetes and Kathleen's work to address cardiovascular disease are excellent examples of passion and leadership in action to improve the lives of people around the world. We are very proud of both of them!"

"Seed grant programs such as this one are hugely helpful in jump-starting a research program."

—Bethany Cummings, DVM, PhD



Bethany Cummings, DVM, PhD



Kathleen Kelly, DVM, PhD

"TRAILBLAZER" WILLIAM O. JONES BROKE RACIAL BARRIERS

By Olivia Hall

When William O. Jones, DVM, PhD '71, passed away in January, his obituary lauded him as "a trailblazer in the veterinary medical field."

Indeed, the Cornell grad and native of Westminster, S.C. became the first African-American veterinarian (receiving his DVM from Tuskegee University in 1963) to earn board certification from the American College of Veterinary Pathologists, and his distinguished career included service in the Veterinary Corps of the United States Army Reserve, as well as more than 30 years on the faculty of Tuskegee University. Jones extended his leadership to dozens of academic, fraternal, and service organizations, rising to prominence in a variety of these groups.

But the path he blazed did not end with his passing. Numerous awards for teaching excellence speak to the impact he made on the next generation of veterinarians.

"He was such a dynamic

"He was such a dynamic instructor, and the way he taught was an eye-opening experience," "He was the man who inspired me to be who I am today."

—Athema Etzioni, DVM

instructor, and the way he taught was an eye-opening experience," said Athema Etzioni, DVM, the first black woman to be board-certified as a veterinary clinical pathologist. "He was the man who inspired me to be who I am today."

David E. Brooks, DVM, another former student, added: "His office door was always open and, more important, his heart."



William O. Jones, DVM, PhD '71, left, as a representative of the United Supreme Council, 33rd degree Masons, presented a scholarship check in veterinary medicine to TUSVM in 2009.