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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2023

## The MSPCA-Angell and Northeast Animal Shelter Merge

### Joining Forces to Help Homeless Animals

Neal Litvack, MSPCA-Angell President



In 2020, the Shapiro family, founders of Northeast Animal Shelter (NEAS), decided to search for a partner to operate the Shelter. The Shelter's Board of Directors contacted the MSPCA-Angell, and in January 2021, the MSPCA-Angell took on the management of NEAS. We would

work together and use our complementary strengths to help even more animals, locally and nationally.



NEAS transports more homeless animals from out of state than any other Massachusetts animal shelter. Half of their Salem, MA, building is dedicated to quarantine space. This available quarantine space makes adoption in the state possible for homeless animals arriving from out of state (given that the State of Massachusetts requires that all dogs and cats entering the state be quarantined for at least 48 hours). Only about a dozen animals can be quarantined at the MSPCA-Angell's four large adoption centers, but NEAS alone has a quarantine capacity for 150 animals. No other shelter in the state can quarantine that many animals simultaneously.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

## Technology and Staffing Advances in the Past Year

Ann Marie Greenleaf, DVM, DACVECC-SA  
Chief of Staff, Angell Animal Medical Center



COVID-19 and its aftermath have permanently changed how veterinary hospitals operate, including at the MSPCA-Angell. Over the past few years, we've seen a high turnover rate among veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and support staff, increasing overall stress and anxiety, but we've learned from these pain points. As a result, we embraced new technology to improve efficiency and time management and took a new approach to staff recruitment and retention. Fortunately, these efforts have begun to strengthen our staffing situation.

The following is an overview of a few significant technology and staffing initiatives we launched in the past year.

### Vocera: A Care Team Communication Platform

For years, Angell staff relied on pagers to communicate with each other throughout the hospital. The drawback? Upon receiving a notification, doctors would have to pause what they were doing and listen to the message before returning the call (or making a note to call back later).

With Vocera, staff can receive messages seamlessly from anywhere throughout the hospital while working. The communication device is worn around the neck like a badge. Using voice commands, Vocera instantly connects staff with each other, reducing phone tag, paging, and physically searching for a person.



(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

## THE MSPCA-ANGELL AND NORTHEAST ANIMAL SHELTER MERGE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

NEAS and many South and Midwest animal shelters have excellent long-standing transport relationships. Currently, several out-of-state shelters are overwhelmed with homeless animals and lack the resources to handle them because of funding and staffing shortages. By



combining NEAS's robust relocation abilities with the adoption expertise of the MSPCA-Angell, we can help more communities struggling with pet overpopulation — and help them faster.

The merger with NEAS also expands the MSPCA-Angell's footprint on the North Shore of Massachusetts. By working together, we can make veterinary care affordable and accessible to underserved communities in the area. Angell's medical practice also has the potential to expand in the future. Currently, NEAS provides spay/neuter services and vaccinations in their clinic, but the number they can do is limited. We're hoping that one day we can have a low-cost, fully-equipped clinic available in Salem to assist people looking for subsidized medical care for their pets.

We are grateful for the impact our Angell alumni continue to have on providing quality veterinary medicine across the country. This merger, which

went into effect on January 1, 2023, is another way we can help animals in areas of need. The MSPCA-Angell and NEAS have had a long-term collaborative relationship devoted to animal protection. And now, we can help even more animals and community members thanks to our robust shared resources. Together we are stronger than we are apart — and the animals we serve are the beneficiaries.



## TECHNOLOGY AND STAFFING ADVANCES IN THE PAST YEAR (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

In addition, Vocera lets staff make and receive calls without interrupting what they're doing. For example, when a call says, "This is a message from Dr. Michaels to Dr. Greenleaf," I can take the call or ignore it — and if I don't take the call, then the caller can leave a message. However, if there's an emergency and Dr. Michaels needs to connect with me immediately, she can break through with the urgent call feature.

Vocera also has the option to call an entire department or group. If a staff member needs to speak to an ECC doctor — the first available one — they can contact the ECC department, asking for assistance.

This technology has dramatically streamlined staff communication, reduced stress, optimized workflow, and ultimately improved patient and client care.

### Instinct: Veterinary Software to Modernize Angell's Treatment Records

Anyone who worked at Angell in the past 50 to 60 years knows how nurses copied over the next day's treatments every night. Recopying this information each night was inefficient — it took time away from treating inpatients and inevitably increased errors.

Then we discovered Instinct, an electronic medical record treatment sheet. With Instinct, doctors and nurses enter all their orders for inpatients electronically, ending the continuous copying. The medical record is updated daily and continues indefinitely. So if a patient gets amoxicillin twice daily, their medical record states that until the day staff decides to stop it.

We're also using Instinct to revamp and refine our inpatient charging system, capturing charges previously missed.

### Attendant Training Program: Cultivating Clinical Talent from Within

To deal with staffing issues, we've implemented short-term and long-term strategies. Our short-term plans include the following:

- Increasing our marketing bandwidth
- Attending more regional and national veterinary meetings
- Recruiting directly from community colleges and schools with veterinary technology programs

As part of our long-term strategy, we started externships with the veterinary technical colleges with which we're already affiliated. And we now offer \$1,000 annual scholarships at two schools, UMass and North Shore Community College, to help veterinary technology students pay for tuition. Each scholarship is funded with a \$25,000 endowment to continue the funding in perpetuity. We also continue to offer the Penn Foster Program, which allows Angell employees to enroll in the school's online Certified Veterinary Technician Program after working at Angell for six months. Then we pay their full tuition for the four semesters.

However, we are most pleased with the newly updated Attendant Training Program in terms of staffing results. The program started to engage attendants who assist nurses as entry-level staff. The attendants help walk dogs, restrain patients for treatments, clean cages, and stock inventory. Unfortunately, the attendants have historically made slow progress, mainly because there weren't enough trainers. (About 80 people, including technicians, assistants, and attendants, were overseen by one trainer.)

We placed the group under its own manager in the updated program. Giving the attendants a specified manager provided them with more attention and mentorship, allowing us to train them to become veterinary assistants within the hospital. Additionally, we created a career ladder to illustrate how attendants would advance until they gained the necessary skills to become technician assistants.

There are incentives for the attendants. Achievement of each level results in a corresponding increase in pay. We also provide them with a fanny pack of goodies, including a stethoscope, hemostat, nail

clippers, notebook, pen, bandage, and scissors. These items were historically purchased separately by the attendants, but now they're provided upfront, making it easier for the attendants to get started.



Now armed with the mentorship and resources to help them move up the ladder quickly, they're even more determined to reach the top.

With a revamped Attendant Training Program, we can hire from within instead of outside. Although we haven't conquered the overall staffing issue, we have gone from many openings to a more modest level.

Although the past two years have been challenging, we are on the right track. Utilizing effective technologies and thinking outside the box when it comes to staffing helps us not only as a team but also encourages collaboration, promotes personal and professional growth, and inspires us to do our best work, which, in turn, helps us provide exceptional care to our clients and patients.





## The Value of Mentorship in Veterinary Medicine

Douglas Brum, DVM (Intern Class of '86)  
Joel Kaye, DVM (Intern Class of '91)  
Angell Alumni Co-Directors



Interns and residents benefit from mentorship not only because they gain hands-on skills but also because they work alongside experienced vets. The presence of a senior doctor providing mentorship can help them gain confidence as they transition into veterinary practice. The high-stress levels experienced by veterinarians (especially after the past three years of COVID-19) make mentorship even more critical here at Angell today to promote a veterinarian's health.

New graduates often enter the profession with little practical knowledge since veterinary school focuses primarily on didactic aspects of the profession and its practicalities. The Angell Internship and Residency Programs are mentorship programs at their core. The programs are incredibly rigorous, but they prepare these young doctors to handle any situation and gain tremendous practical experience and training. As a result, the interns and residents become better veterinarians in the long run. By the time they leave Angell, they have seen and dealt with everything.

Angell matches interns and residents with senior staff doctors in an area of their interest. The mentor is there to guide the intern toward their chosen goal and, more importantly, emotionally support the new clinician through the internship.

Angell's Internship and Residency Programs are constantly evolving. When we interned 30+ years ago, we shouldn't have been allowed to do what



we did independently. Sometimes we would do a surgery for the first time in the middle of the night all by ourselves. However, that was the standard back then. In those days, a surgeon could only be called in for an emergency spinal surgery or occasionally as a backup. During his internship, Dr. Brum remembers doing four corneal lacerations — all at night. Even more impressive, Dr. Brum had an internmate who cut more than 20 gastric torsions during his one-year program.

Of course, those standards wouldn't hold today. Over the years, as things have changed and advanced, the mentorship interns and residents receive has increased, giving them more support if needed. Each case seen — whether in or outpatient — is reviewed by multiple doctors in a group setting. Specifically, having even the outpatient cases reviewed by mentors ensures that all cases seen have been discussed with senior staff doctors. By doing this, the cases get the best care and the interns or residents gain exposure to complex cases and hear more opinions and ideas from more senior clinicians — and it's much less likely something is missed or falls through the cracks.

There is much more didactic training as well. There are weekly lectures specifically for interns, weekly specific specialty rounds and journal clubs for every resident, and two weekly hospital lectures (given by all staff and many guest lecturers). Angell was always able to provide the practical experience of seeing many different kinds of cases but improving didactic training was a priority. It has changed dramatically.

Mentorship even helps in other areas of veterinary training besides day-to-day clinical cases that may not be as obvious. Sometimes financial issues prohibit doing all the diagnostics that might be recommended. Many veterinary school graduates aren't prepared to offer a spectrum of medical care to lessen the stress of those with these limitations. Sometimes one must just try and "treat for the treatable" without getting a specific diagnosis. This may be one of the hardest things for newer doctors to do independently and with confidence. Having more experienced clinicians' input on these cases is very valuable. Angell interns and residents learn how to work effectively with clients and approach cases in a way that's cost-effective for owners without taking away from their pet's health.

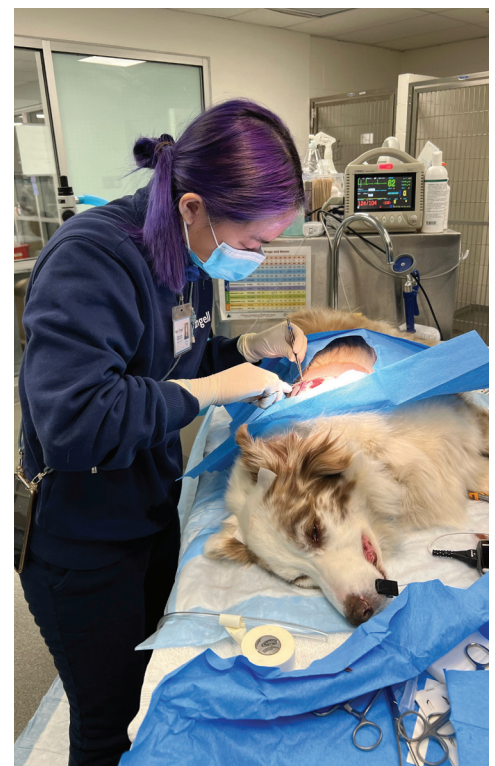
Senior mentors also help the new intern or resident learn that not all cases are approached similarly and how to handle issues practically. Good veterinarians shouldn't use the same formulary on every animal; just because one treatment is effective for one dog doesn't mean another will need the same workup. By rounding on all their cases and having input from multiple clinicians, they learn that there is never just one way to solve a problem; people may have very different opinions on the same case, and sometimes there is no correct answer. Varying opinions and



thinking about the case from multiple perspectives improve the quality of mentorship and patient care.

Despite the increase in mentorship, the doctors still have primary case responsibility and work independently. This was always one of the things about Angell that was so important in training confident and competent veterinarians. We feel it is the right balance to ensure that the program, at its core, is still the "Angell" experience.

Mentorship is vital to a veterinarian's success and helps create longstanding professional relationships far beyond graduation. It affects one throughout their veterinary career. Both of us have been here at Angell for 30+ years. Though our colleagues are not necessarily mentors, they offer advice and assistance when we have questions — every day. You can never know it all; hopefully, we never stop learning. We are truly privileged to work in a hospital with so many great veterinarians. Getting help on complex cases is easy — you just have to ask.





## Looking Back: An Intern Year in Review

Dilraj Goraya, DVM (Intern Class of '23)

Being accepted into the Angell Animal Medical Center internship program was exciting and nerve-wracking. As a recently graduated veterinarian, I knew this internship would be a formidable challenge and an excellent opportunity to acquire valuable work experience. The prospect of collaborating with such an accomplished and esteemed team of veterinary experts was indeed thrilling. At the same time, the imminent start of the internship also evoked excitement yet anxiety. The rigorous nature of the program and the demanding expectations prompted doubts regarding my readiness to tackle the arduous trials that lay ahead. Would I be able to endure long hours, challenging cases, and emotional strain? As it turns out, I was not the only intern grappling with apprehensions. The camaraderie that developed between my fellow interns and me proved to be a salient factor in my internship experience. We drew on one another for support, encouragement, and comic relief throughout the program, and I remain deeply appreciative of the connections that blossomed between us and the collective knowledge we gained at Angell.

The life of a veterinary intern is not for the faint of heart. The protracted hours, the taxing cases, and the toll on one's emotions can be particularly onerous for new graduates. Nevertheless, the support and mentorship of my fellow interns, staff doctors, and the Angell team enabled me to navigate these obstacles and emerge stronger. Despite the challenges, I was fortunate to encounter many rewarding experiences during my internship. Witnessing the exultation of owners as their beloved animals fully recovered was a gratifying and irreplaceable experience. Even in cases where we were not as successful, I felt a sense of pride in knowing that we had provided compassionate and effective care to the best of our abilities.

One of my most significant achievements during our internship was the quantity of knowledge and experience we accumulated. While the initial few months were challenging as we adjusted to the pace and demands of the job, we rapidly gained proficiency and flourished. We garnered exposure to diverse perspectives, and I am confident that these experiences will serve us well in our future veterinary careers. Reflecting on my internship experience, I am grateful for the opportunities and tribulations I encountered. Though our class faced numerous relentless moments throughout the program, I recognize that this experience will continue to transform us into ever-improving doctors.

Collaboration with a cohort of talented and driven interns was one of the most valuable aspects of my internship at Angell. From the beginning, I was struck by the exceptional level of mutual support fostered among us. As we embarked on the uphill journey of honing our craft, we relied upon each other for guidance, encouragement, and inspiration. Our bonds grew stronger with each passing day as we navigated the myriad of challenges that confronted us. Whether it was grappling with the complexities of a case, working through the wee hours of the morning, or simply lending a listening ear to a colleague in need, we were united in our commitment to helping each other. Through this collective effort, we forged a sense of community that transcended the confines of our internship and permeated our lives. Such bonds are essential to the very fabric of the veterinary profession as they foster a sense of community and support that is vital to our collective well-being, and they instill in us a deep sense of purpose and drive essential to our professional success. By cultivating a culture of collaboration and mutual support, we can ensure that we are well-equipped to meet the challenges that confront us and deliver the best possible care to our patients.



As I reflect on my experiences as an intern at Angell, I am struck by the profound impact this collaborative spirit has had on me as a veterinary professional and the knowledge I have gained. It has bolstered my confidence, imbued me with a sense of purpose, and instilled a deep appreciation for the value of teamwork in the medical field. As I embark on the next chapter of my career, I am confident that the bonds I have formed with my fellow interns and colleagues at Angell will continue to propel me forward, serving as a constant source of inspiration and encouragement. I believe that through these enduring connections formed at Angell, we will be able to achieve the greatest heights of success and fulfillment as veterinary professionals. In doing so, we can lay the foundation for a brighter, more prosperous future for the veterinary profession and the animals we serve.



## Emergency & Critical Care in Boston and Waltham; Angell Urgent Care in Waltham by Appointment

The Emergency & Critical Care service at our Boston and Waltham locations is available 24/7 for clients whose pets need immediate medical care for life-threatening trauma or disease.

Referring veterinarians may alert staff to an incoming ECC case by calling **617-522-7282**.

*For more information, please visit [angell.org/emergency](https://angell.org/emergency).*

The Urgent Care service at Angell West bridges the gap between primary and emergency care, offering treatment for common urgent care cases such as bite wound/lacerations, lameness, ear infections, and vomiting/diarrhea.

Clients can call up to one day in advance to book an Urgent Care appointment. This is not a walk-in service.

Appointments are available Mondays to Wednesdays, 8:00am - 6:00pm by calling **781-902-8400**.

Urgent Care for avian and exotics is available through the Angell West Avian and Exotic service by calling **617-989-1561**.

*For more information, please visit [angell.org/urgent](https://angell.org/urgent).*



# Angell Clinic Provides Care for Pets, Training for Students

Angell at Essex veterinary clinic (Danvers, MA) is a unique partnership between the MSPCA-Angell and Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School (Essex Tech). While providing exceptional pet healthcare to the North Shore community, the clinic offers rigorous training to Essex Tech veterinary students. During the program, the students work alongside Angell veterinarians and veterinary technicians and gain valuable real-life experience that prepares them for a veterinary career following graduation.

“I enjoy working with the students as they navigate the veterinary field,” says staff veterinarian Heidi Broadley, DVM. “There are some things we see so frequently as general practitioners that it becomes easy to take them for granted over time.” One such time was when a dog came into the clinic with a yeast infection in its ears. “We see these all the time in this region, often due to an allergy to something in the environment or certain food,” explained Dr. Broadley. “I watched the Essex Tech students’ faces light up when they identified the yeast under the microscope. Being able to help them apply their classroom learning to real-life experiences is why I’m here.”

With support from four certified veterinary technicians, Dr. Broadley and Sara Gardiner, DVM, provide patients with a wide range of services, including primary veterinary care, general dentistry (including cleanings), basic surgeries (such as spay/neuter), and routine vaccinations.

For more information, please visit [angell.org/essex](http://angell.org/essex)



## MSPCA-ANGELL CLINICS IN BOSTON, METHUEN, AND CAPE COD

Offering subsidized veterinary care to help keep pets and families together

The vision of the MSPCA-Angell Clinics is simple yet powerful: provide affordable veterinary care that helps keep pets and families together. By providing subsidized, low-cost veterinary care, the clinics provide a new pathway for families in need.

The clinics provide spay/neuter services as well as acute, outpatient, surgical care. The clinics are meant for families who cannot afford urgent medical care and are faced with a painful choice between euthanasia, surrender, or bringing an animal home against medical recommendations. By providing subsidized, low-cost veterinary care, the clinic provides a new pathway for families in need. We welcome your referrals to our clinics.

### Medical Procedures Performed at the MSPCA-Angell Clinics

- Diagnostics: bloodwork, urinalysis, radiographs, histopathology
- Spay for pyometra or dystocia
- Wound and laceration care
- Amputation (tail, digit, limb)
- Splinting
- Umbilical hernia repair
- Cystotomy
- Mass removal when quality of life is impacted
- Nasopharyngeal/Oral Polyp removal
- Enucleation
- Foreign body surgery for stable pets who do not require 24-hour hospitalization

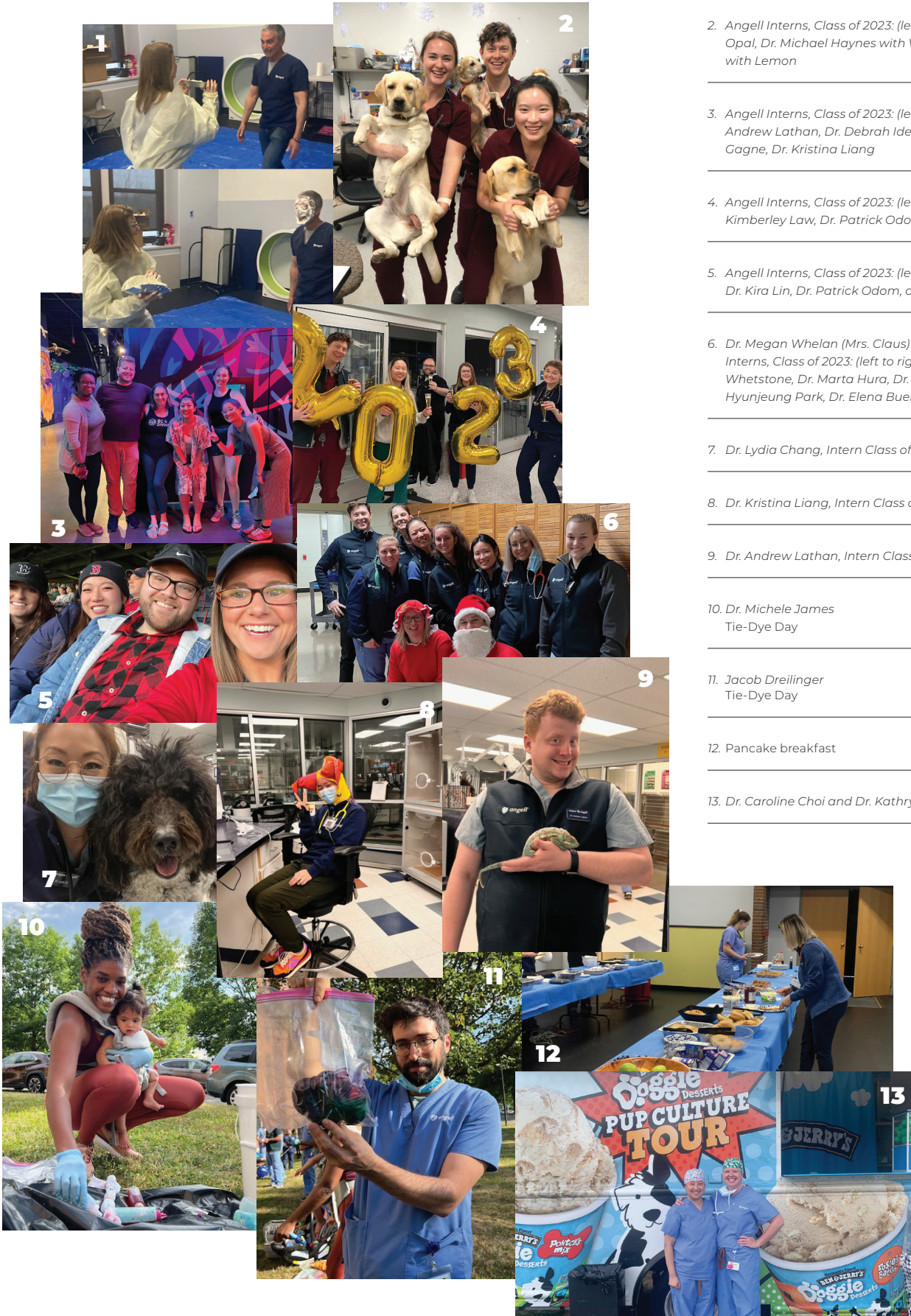
To receive care at the MSPCA-Angell Clinics, clients must be on one of the public assistance programs listed or have an income under the Massachusetts poverty guidelines (<https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>). Ultimate determination of suitability for this program will be made on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of MSPCA-Angell managers and veterinarians. For more information, please visit [angell.org/clinics](http://angell.org/clinics).



**mspca**  **angell clinic**

Boston | Cape Cod | Nevins Farm

# 2022 – 2023 Memorable Photos



1. Dr. Nyla Bent and Dr. Doug Brum  
Pie a Clinician Day

2. Angell Interns, Class of 2023: (left to right) Dr. Emma Evans with Opal, Dr. Michael Haynes with Waffles, and Dr. Hyunjeung Park with Lemon

3. Angell Interns, Class of 2023: (left to right) Dr. Lena Seegars, Dr. Andrew Lathan, Dr. Debrah Iden, Dr. Lydia Chang, Dr. Jeaneva Gagne, Dr. Kristina Liang

4. Angell Interns, Class of 2023: (left to right) Dr. Michael Haynes, Dr. Kimberley Law, Dr. Patrick Odom, Dr. Nyla Bent, Dr. Anna Ferreira

5. Angell Interns, Class of 2023: (left to right) Dr. Mackenzie Grace, Dr. Kira Lin, Dr. Patrick Odom, and Dr. Nyla Bent

6. Dr. Megan Whelan (Mrs. Claus) and Dr. David Carabetta with Angell Interns, Class of 2023: (left to right) Dr. Michael Haynes, Dr. Kaylan Whetstone, Dr. Marta Hura, Dr. Kira Lin, Dr. Mackenzie Grace, Dr. Hyunjeung Park, Dr. Elena Buenrostro, and Dr. Leanna Hoover

7. Dr. Lydia Chang, Intern Class of 2023

8. Dr. Kristina Liang, Intern Class of 2023

9. Dr. Andrew Lathan, Intern Class of 2023

10. Dr. Michele James  
Tie-Dye Day

11. Jacob Dreilinger  
Tie-Dye Day

12. Pancake breakfast

13. Dr. Caroline Choi and Dr. Kathryn Heidgerd

## In Memoriam

We are saddened to share the passing of Angell alumni Dr. Kristin Sobel (Boyd) and Dr. John S. Walkenhorst. Both veterinarians left a strong legacy of caring for animals.



### **Kristin Sobel (Boyd), DVM (Intern Class of '13)**

Kristin Sobel (Boyd), DVM, 39, of Ridgefield, CT, died on December 31, 2022. She was the beloved wife of Jeffrey D. Boyd and the loving mother of Andrew Owen Boyd.

Kristin was born in Springfield, MA, on July 27, 1983. From early on, she expressed talent in academics and athletics but discovered her calling in caring for her family's pets. Kristin earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and then attended graduate school at St. George's University in Grenada. She earned her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine (DVM) from the University of Oregon in 2012 and completed her internship at Angell Animal Medical Center in 2013.

Kristin was a veterinarian at Noah's Ark Animal Hospital in Danbury, CT. In her spare time, she enjoyed scouting local nature preserves for the best hiking trails, exploring historic sites near and far, finding all the best places to eat, and relaxing on the beach.



### **John S. Walkenhorst, DVM, DABVP (Intern Class of '81)**

John S. "Jack" Walkenhorst, DVM, DABVP, of Lebanon, OH, passed unexpectedly on November 1, 2022. Born January 29, 1950, in Cincinnati, OH, Jack was a friend to all who knew him. He earned his DVM degree from The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1979 and completed post-graduate training at Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston until 1981. In 1987, he obtained his diplomate status in the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners.

His love of animals was truly his calling. From 1981 to 2000, Jack was a practice owner in Zanesville, OH, and Blue Hill, ME. In 2000, he was named Chief of Staff at Warwick Animal Hospital in Warwick, RI. In 2001, Jack returned to his hometown of Cincinnati and co-founded Advanced Veterinary Imaging, a specialty veterinary practice for CT scanning. From 2004 to 2013, Jack served as a Regional Medical Director for VCA Animal Hospitals. More recently, Jack volunteered as a board member and provider for Pets In Need and as the long-time Treasurer for the Cincinnati Veterinary Medical Association.

Jack was a licensed private pilot for many years. When not flying for pleasure or business, he enjoyed flying his brother Ted and his nephew and nieces to major and minor league baseball games. Reading, biking, gardening, and music were his other favorite pursuits.

## Join Our Alumni Group

### To join, simply:

1. Log onto Facebook
2. Visit [facebook.com/groups/AngellAlumni](https://facebook.com/groups/AngellAlumni)
3. Select "Request to Join"

## Did You Know...

that you can provide for your future even as you support the mission of the MSPCA-Angell? As you consider ways to supplement retirement income, you may wish to explore the benefits of a charitable gift annuity. By making your gift now, reserving the right to receive income at a later date, you not only provide for your financial future, but you give yourself the advantage of a federal charitable deduction available immediately. If you would like to learn more about the substantial benefits of a charitable gift annuity, please contact **Susan Rowell** at **617-553-9510** or **srowell@mspca.org**.

## Class of 2014: Where Are They Now?

**Dr. David Carabetta:** Following his year at Angell, Dr. David Carabetta completed an Emergency and Critical Care residency at Michigan State University, where he was fortunate to meet his wife, Kristin. After residency, they moved to central Connecticut, where they spent three years. Since then, Kristin took a job in Boston, bringing them back towards the area, and Dr. Carabetta returned to Angell in 2022. They love being back in the area, enjoying everything Boston offers, and they have recently taken up sailing as a new hobby.



*Dr. David Carabetta*

**Dr. Zach Crouse:** After his internship, Dr. Zach Crouse remained at Angell to complete a Small Animal Internal Medicine residency. He then joined the Angell team as a staff internist. He enjoys working with his colleagues, teaching interns and residents, and continuing to expand the minimally invasive interventions offered at Angell. Dr. Crouse lives with his wife (Meredith), children (Elijah and Adelaide), dogs (Lincoln and Jasper), and cat (Pippin) in West Roxbury.



*Dr. Zach Crouse*

**Dr. Stephanie Dong:** Dr. Stephanie Dong's motto that started at Angell is "Livin' the Dream!" and has continued to this day. Currently, she is at Virginia Veterinary Centers in Richmond, VA, as an internist. She tells us that she's still working crazy hours but also finds time to enjoy other things in life, such as traveling, being a workout junkie, and eating/drinking to her heart's desire.



*Dr. Stephanie Dong*

**Dr. John French:** After completing his Angell internship, Dr. John French stayed on staff briefly as a General Medicine veterinarian. He then completed a combined master's degree and residency in Diagnostic Imaging at Colorado State University. Dr. French then moved back to his home state of Maine and works predominantly as a teleradiologist for Antech Imaging. While he does come to Boston regularly, Dr. French admits he's a little paranoid that someone will give him some scrubs and make him deobstipate a cat if he walks into Angell.



*Dr. John French*

**Dr. Jenna Giangarra:** Following her Angell internship, Dr. Jenna Giangarra relocated to Houston, TX, for a Specialty Surgical internship at Gulf Coast Veterinary Hospital. After completing the internship at Gulf Coast, she moved to Virginia for a Surgical residency program at Virginia Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine (Virginia Tech). After her residency, Dr. Giangarra moved to Connecticut, where she has practiced since 2018. She recently passed the surgery boards in 2022. Dr. Giangarra states the last several years were a blur while struggling to navigate the COVID pandemic. Still, it did offer some blessings, which included a deeper appreciation of maintaining healthy boundaries and work-life balance, as well as the birth of her second child.



*Dr. Jenna Giangarra*

**Dr. Jessica Giannetto-Rose:** Dr. Jessica Giannetto-Rose went to a private practice, Virginia Veterinary Surgical Associates, in Richmond, VA, where she completed her Surgical internship and Small Animal Surgery residency. She married in 2017, finished her residency in 2018, and stayed at the practice (now BluePearl Richmond) until June 2022. She became a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons – Small Animal in 2020. Her son, Louis, was born in January 2021. After spending eight years in Virginia, Dr. Giannetto-Rose and her family moved to Gorham, ME, and she is currently a surgeon at Portland Veterinary Emergency and Specialty Care in Portland, ME.



*Dr. Jessica Giannetto-Rose*

**Dr. Katie Hogan:** Dr. Katie Hogan has been at Angell since finishing her internship in 2014. She completed a cardiology residency at Angell in 2017 and has been on staff as a cardiologist since then. Dr. Hogan is now the Cardiology residency program director. She and her husband live just outside of Boston with their twin boys (born May 2023!) and two kitties.



*Dr. Katie Hogan*

**Dr. Veronica Jarvinen:** Dr. Veronica Jarvinen worked in Emergency/Specialty centers for five years until she opened her own Urgent Care practice, EMMAvet, in Alexandria, VA. EMMAvet now also offers Primary Care services. Dr. Jarvinen lives in Virginia with her husband Mike, their two daughters (4-year-old Eszti and 2-year-old Veri), and a dog named Jaildog.



*Dr. Veronica Jarvinen (Left)*



**Dr. Meredith Leary:** After completing her internship and ECC residency at Angell in 2017, Dr. Meredith Leary moved to Cincinnati, OH, where she led the Critical Care department at MedVet Cincinnati for four years. She transitioned to locum work in 2021, and since then, she has worked as a Criticalist in academic centers and busy private practices across the country. Dr. Leary lives in northern Kentucky, just across the river from Cincinnati, with her husband and stepson, Mike and Vincent, and their gang of animals (including their dog, Emma, and three cats - Georgie, Alex, and Adrienne). When not traveling as a criticalist, she works as a hospice veterinarian with Lap of Love. Dr. Leary is a certified Master Gardener, growing food for her family and community in her backyard organic garden. She also does taekwondo with her family. Mike, Vincent, and Meredith all earned KY State Champion titles and achieved the rank of second-degree black belt in 2022.



*Dr. Meredith Leary*

**Dr. John Litterine-Kaufman:** Following his Angell internship, Dr. John Litterine-Kaufman moved to Colorado for a surgical internship, then returned home to Massachusetts for a surgical residency at Angell. After graduating from his residency, he relocated to Richmond, VA, for a job as a surgeon. During this time, he married his wife, Beth, and they had a little boy, Miles. In August of 2022, he and his family moved to Philadelphia, where Dr. Litterine-Kaufman currently practices.



*Dr. John Litterine-Kaufman*

**Dr. Molly Miller:** Dr. Molly Miller returned to her home state of Virginia after Angell and now works at River City Veterinary Hospital in Richmond, VA.



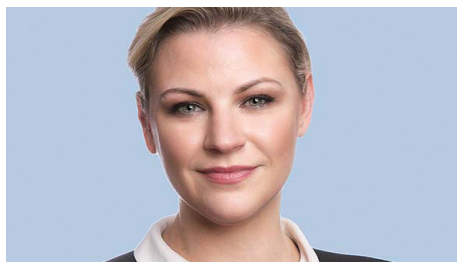
*Dr. Molly Miller*

**Dr. Whitney Phipps :** Dr. Whitney Phipps completed her residency in Small Animal Surgery at Tufts in 2018. After residency, she spent four years in private practice. She now works as a locum surgeon while pursuing other interests in veterinary research and business development. When not working, Dr. Phipps enjoys gardening, yoga, making jam, and spending time with her four wonderful nephews. She lives with her husband and cattedog in Connecticut



*Dr. Whitney Phipps*

**Dr. Rochelle Prudic:** Dr. Rochelle Prudic completed a Medical and Surgical Oncology internship at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL, followed by a three-year oncology residency at the University of Georgia in Athens, GA. She is a board-certified medical oncologist at MedVet Cleveland West, where she has worked since 2018.



*Dr. Rochelle Prudic*

**Dr. Katie Simpson:** Dr. Katie Simpson is a Staff Veterinarian at Premier Veterinary Group. She lives in Chicago with her Pitbull Penny and cat Amelia. She enjoys traveling as much as possible and the Chicago food scene.



*Dr. Katie Simpson*

**Dr. Rachel Smith:** Dr. Rachel Smith completed an Internal Medicine residency in Minnesota. She now lives in Pittsburgh, doing ultrasounds, scopes, and teaching at a busy private practice.



*Dr. Rachel Smith*

**Dr. Patrick Sullivan:** After completing the Avian and Exotic Animal internship at Angell, Dr. Patrick Sullivan completed a residency in Avian and Zoological Medicine at The University of Tennessee. He then returned to Angell, first working at Angell West (Waltham, MA), and now works at Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston, MA.



*Dr. Patrick Sullivan*

**Dr. Alex Tun:** Dr. Alex Tun went on to a neurology specialty internship at the Animal Specialty Center in Yonkers, NY. He completed his Veterinary Neurology and Neurosurgery residency at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Tun married his wife, Alicia, during his second year of residency. (Fun fact, he made a proposal video for her while at Angell, which he shot in the library late one night.) Dr. Tun later moved to the San Francisco Bay area and practiced neurology at VCA SFVS from 2018 to 2020 before joining his current hospital, Pet Emergency and Specialty Center of Marin, a.k.a PESC.M. Dr. Tun now lives in El Cerrito in the East Bay with Alicia and their two cats, an orange tabby named Thomas and a Maine Coon mix named Jezebel.



*Dr. Alex Tun*



Top row L-R: Rachel Angles, Matthew Araujo, Adrienne Balionis, Mario Barenas, Rebecca Broussard, Zachary Carlson-Sypek, William Downs, Alexandra Emelianchik, Jaymee Gencher, Amanda Hirschman; Middle row L-R: Kevin Kasza, Melody Koo, Logan Kursh, Andrew Kurtzman, Danielle Lancer, Caroline Loftus, Angela Lu, William Orrico; Bottom row L-R: Carson Rehn, Katherine (Violet) Rettmer, Declan Ryan, Sidney Ryan, Megan Steinhilber, Ashley Vasel, Yvonne Wei, Kirby Yamamoto.

## Incoming Interns and Specialty Interns Class of 2024

**Dr. Rachel Angles (Angell West)**  
University of Illinois College of Veterinarian Medicine

**Dr. Matthew Araujo**  
University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine

**Dr. Adrienne Balionis (Cardiology)**  
St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine; Rotating Internship at Veterinary Emergency and Referral Group; Cardiology Internship at QTest Labs

**Dr. Mario Barenas (Internal Medicine)**  
Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine; Rotating Internship at Animal Medical Center

**Dr. Rebecca Broussard**  
Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine

**Dr. Zachary Carlson-Sypek**  
Midwestern University College of Veterinary Medicine

**Dr. William Downs**  
Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

**Dr. Alexandra Emelianchik (Avian and Exotic Medicine)**  
University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine; Rotating Internship at VCA Hollywood Animal Hospital

**Dr. Jaymee Gencher**  
Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine/ Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University

**Dr. Amanda Hirschman (Angell West)**  
Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University

**Dr. Kevin Kasza**  
University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine

**Dr. Melody Koo (Neurology)**  
College of Veterinary Medicine at Western University of Health Sciences

**Dr. Logan Kursh**  
University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine

**Dr. Andrew Kurtzman (Oncology)**  
Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine; Rotating Internship at BluePearl Pet Hospital; Specialty Internship at BluePearl Pet Hospital

**Dr. Danielle Lancer**  
University of Sydney School of Veterinary Science

**Dr. Caroline Loftus (Angell West)**  
The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies at the University of Edinburgh

**Dr. Angela Lu**  
Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

**Dr. William Orrico**  
Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University

**Dr. Carson Rehn (Avian and Exotic Medicine, Angell West)**  
The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies at the University of Edinburgh; Rotating Internship at Angell Animal Medical Center

**Dr. Katherine (Violet) Rettmer (Surgery)**  
Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine; Rotating Internship at Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine

**Dr. Declan Ryan**  
University of California, Davis School of Veterinary Medicine

**Dr. Sidney Ryan**  
University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine

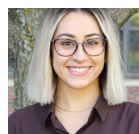
**Dr. Megan Steinhilber**  
Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

**Dr. Ashley Vasel**  
Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine/ University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine

**Dr. Yvonne Wei**  
The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies at the University of Edinburgh

**Dr. Kirby Yamamoto**  
University of Minnesota School of Veterinary Medicine

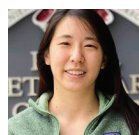
## Incoming Residents Class of 2026



### Avian and Exotics

**Elena Buenrostro, DVM**

- Angell, Avian and Exotic Specialty Internship (2022-2023)
- University of Sydney School of Veterinary Science, DVM (2022)



### Cardiology

**Alice Chirn, MA, BVETMed**

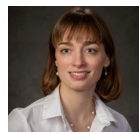
- VCA Animal Specialty and Emergency Center Specialty Internship (2022-2023)
- Angell, ECC Internship (2021-2022)
- Royal Veterinary College, BVetMed (2021)



### Emergency & Critical Care

**Sam Vitali, DVM**

- Angell, ECC Internship (2022-2023)
- Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, DVM (2022)



### Dentistry

**Meghan Keefe, DVM**

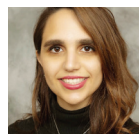
- Animal Medical Center, Rotating Internship (2022-2023)
- Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine, DVM (2022)



### Internal Medicine

**Nyla Bent, DVM**

- Angell, ECC Internship (2022-2023)
- Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine, DVM (2022)



### Ursula Ramalho, DVM

- Blue Pearl Veterinary Partners, Small Animal Rotating Internship (2022-2023)
- Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine, DVM (2022)



### Surgery

**Kristen Behrens, DVM**

- VCA Animal Specialty and Emergency Center, Specialty Internship (2022-2023)
- Angell, ECC Internship (2021-2022)
- Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine, DVM (2021)



Top row L-R: Nyla Bent, Elena Buenrostro, Lydia Chang, Allison Cox, Megan Donovan, Emma Evans, Anna Ferreira, Ariel Fleischman, Jeaneva Gagne, Dilraj Goraya, Mackenzie Grace, Michelle Guarin; Middle row L-R: Brenna Hanratty, Elizabeth Harasym, Michael Haynes, Leanna Hoover, Marta Hura, Jiwon (Monica) Kim, Itsaso Kobayashi, Peter Laminette, Andrew Lathan, Kimberley Law, Kristina Liang, Kira Lin, Carly Nangle, Hyunjeung Park, Lena Seegers, Sam Vitali, Shelby Scanlin, Erin Sunshine, Michelle Szalaszny, Alexis Tolbert, Briana Wilson, Kaylan Whetstone, Rachel Wong.

## Future Plans Intern Class of 2023

- Dr. Nyla Bent**  
Internal Medicine Residency, Angell (Boston, MA)
- Dr. Elena Buenrostro**  
Avian and Exotic Residency, Angell (Boston, MA)
- Dr. Lydia Chang**  
Small Animal Surgery Internship, Veterinary Surgical Center (Vienna, VA)
- Dr. Allison Cox**  
Surgical Internship, Nashville Veterinary Specialist (Nashville, TN)
- Dr. Megan Donovan**  
Surgery Internship, Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine (Baton Rouge, LA)
- Dr. Emma Evans**  
Neurology Internship, BluePearl Specialty and Pet Hospital (North Dallas, TX)
- Dr. Anna Ferreira**  
Cardiology Residency, Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine (Pullman, WA)
- Dr. Ariel Fleischman**  
Cardiology Internship, Sawgrass Veterinary Cardiology (FL)
- Dr. Jeaneva Gagne**  
Staff veterinarian, Brandywine Valley SPCA (BVSPCA) (Newcastle, DE)
- Dr. Dilraj Goraya**  
Surgical Internship, Veterinary Specialty Hospital of San Diego (San Diego, CA)
- Dr. Mackenzie Grace**  
Surgical Internship, Gulf Coast Veterinary Specialists (Houston, TX)
- Dr. Michelle Guarin**  
Medical Director, Boston Veterinary Care at Animal Rescue League (Boston, MA)
- Dr. Brenna Hanratty**  
Currently reviewing options

- Dr. Elizabeth Harasym**  
Internal Medicine Residency, Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine (Ithaca, NY)
- Dr. Michael Haynes**  
Cardiology Internship, University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine (Columbia, MO)
- Dr. Leanna Hoover**  
Emergency and Critical Care Residency, University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine (Philadelphia, PA)
- Dr. Marta Hura**  
Radiology Residency, University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine (Columbia, MO)
- Dr. Deb Iden**  
Neurology Internship, Guardian Veterinary Specialists (Brewster, NY)
- Dr. Kelle Keyles**  
Currently reviewing options
- Dr. Jiwon (Monica) Kim**  
Radiology Residency, Dermatology for Animals (AZ)
- Dr. Itsaso Kobayashi**  
Surgical Internship, Garden State Veterinary Specialists (Tinton Falls, NJ)
- Dr. Peter Laminette**  
Surgical Internship, University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine (Madison, WI)
- Dr. Andrew Lathan**  
Anesthesia Residency, University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine (Knoxville, TN)
- Dr. Kimberley Law**  
Oncology Internship, University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine (Madison, WI)
- Dr. Kristina Liang**  
Emergency veterinarian, Veterinary Specialty Hospital (Hong Kong)
- Dr. Kira Lin**  
Surgical Internship, VCA Animal Specialty Group (Los Angeles, CA)

- Dr. Carly Nangle**  
Shelter veterinarian, New Hampshire SPCA (Stratham, NH)
- Dr. Hyunjeung Park**  
Surgical Internship, VCA Animal Specialty & Emergency Center (Los Angeles, CA)
- Dr. Shelby Scanlin**  
Neurology Residency, Gulf Coast Veterinary Specialists (Houston, TX)
- Dr. Lena Seegers**  
Emergency and Critical Care staff veterinarian, MSPCA-Angell West (Waltham, MA)
- Dr. Erin Sunshine**  
Emergency Veterinarian, VRCC Veterinary Specialty and Emergency Hospital (Englewood, CO)
- Dr. Michelle Szalaszny**  
Neurology Internship, Southeast Veterinary Neurology (Virginia Beach, VA)
- Dr. Alexis Tolbert**  
Neurology Residency, University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine (Knoxville, TN)
- Dr. Sam Vitali**  
Emergency and Critical Care Residency, Angell (Boston, MA)
- Dr. Briana Wilson**  
Currently reviewing options
- Dr. Kaylan Whetstone**  
Emergency and Critical Care Internship, University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine (Athens, GA)
- Dr. Rachel Wong**  
Oncology Residency, Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine (Columbus, OH)

## Future Plans Graduating Residents



**Dr. Michelle Oranges**  
Angell Cardiology (Boston, MA)



**Dr. Annie Sheu-Lee**  
Angell Internal Medicine (Boston, MA)



**Dr. Emily Viani**  
Surgery at Tufts Veterinary Emergency Services (Walpole, MA)

# 2023 Graduation

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2023!**

Best of luck to all our graduates. We're so proud of you all!



Front row (L-R): Carly Nangle, Kelle Keyles, Sam Vitali, Emma Evans, Erin Sunshine, Kira Lin, Nyla Bent, Leanna Hoover; Back row (L-R): Peter Laminette, Kimberley Law, Itsaso Kobayashi, Ariel Fleischman, Allison Cox, Marta Hura



*Drs. Mara Ratnofsky and Emily Viani*



## UPDATE YOUR ALUMNI INFORMATION

Please visit [angell.org/alumni](https://angell.org/alumni) to update your contact information online.

## Intern Discretionary Fund Benefits Go Beyond Patient Care

You may recall how challenging it is to be a new veterinarian. There's so much to learn, and one of the most difficult things is determining how to provide an animal with the best possible care while understanding and respecting an owner's ability to pay.

Tough conversations with clients must include the realities of how financial obligations relate to the life of their beloved pets.

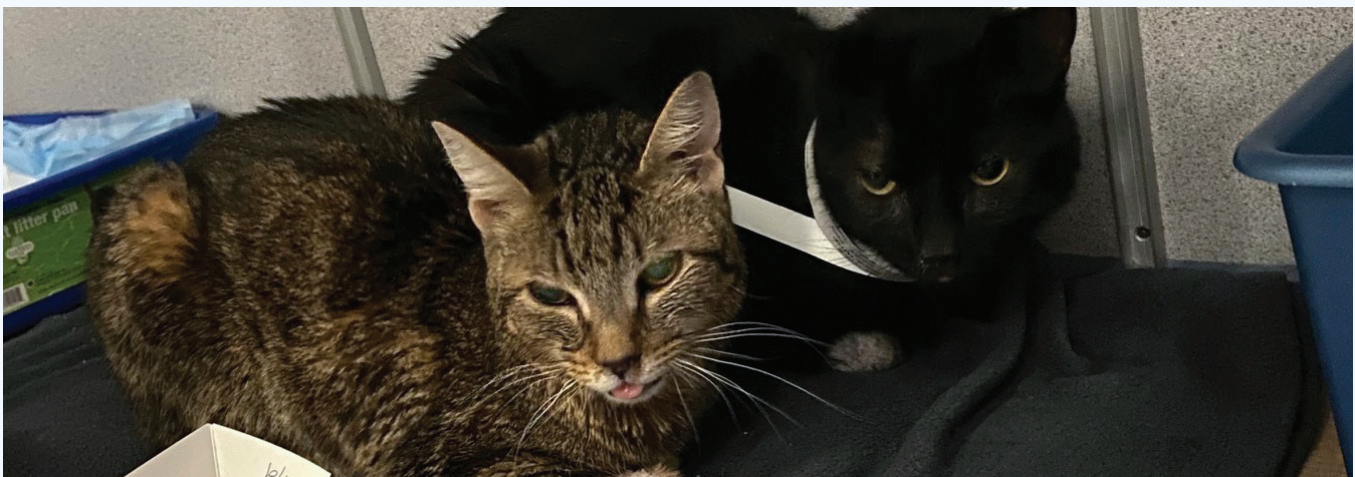
Angell developed the Intern Discretionary Fund to support our doctors in this learning process. This fund provides interns and residents with an annual cash stipend that can be drawn from to help cover the cost of care for patients of owners with financial constraints. They must use these limited funds wisely, considering factors such as prognosis and a client's dedication to care.

When interns use these funds, the gratitude from the pet's family can be quite moving.

Two patients who benefited from the fund are Stormi and Nala, 2-year-old littermates stuck in a house fire. Both cats suffered from severe smoke inhalation, which caused a lot of trouble breathing and burned their mouths. They required oxygen therapy before breathing comfortably, and esophageal feeding tubes were placed to help them eat. Over the first week, the bonded pair showed slow, steady improvements each day. Their personalities started to show more as they continued to heal. They cuddled together, wanted to explore, and began eating without the feeding tubes. Stormi and Nala were nursed back to health and were ready to go home after spending 15 days of care at Angell. Today, they continue to do well at home with their family.

Please consider donating to help support the Intern Discretionary Fund. Your gift will enable our new doctors to learn the impact of providing charitable care and helping hundreds of animals receive care that would have otherwise been inaccessible. Your generosity will directly affect our interns, residents, patients, and their families.

Please visit [mspca.org/donate-now](https://mspca.org/donate-now) for more information.



2-year-old littermates, Stormi and Nala, during their stay at the MSPCA-Angell.

## Registration Now Open for Angell's Fall 2023 CE Seminars

VISIT [ANGELL.ORG/CE](https://ANGELL.ORG/CE)

**Sunday, October 22, 2023**

**8:15am – 2:45pm**

Live Interactive Webinar

5 Interactive CE credits (pending RACE approval)

### SPEAKERS AND TOPICS

- **Rare Feline Endocrinopathies – Zebra Cats**  
*Shawn Kearns, DVM, DACVIM-SA (Internal Medicine)*
- **FLUTD - Updates and Insights**  
*Ashley Lockwood, DVM, DACVECC-SA (Emergency and Critical Care)*
- **Itching to Know - Allergic Cats and Differentials**  
*Klaus Loft, DVM (Dermatology)*
- **Surgery Presentation**  
*Michael Pavletic, DVM, DACVS-SA (Surgery)*
- **Cruciate Disease, Diagnosis, Treatment, and Post-op Care**  
*Jennifer Peterson-Levitt, DVM, DACVS-SA (Surgery)*

**Wednesday, November 1, 2023**

**6:15pm – 8:45pm**

Live Interactive Webinar

2 Interactive CE credits (pending RACE approval)

### SPEAKERS AND TOPICS

- **Fecal Transplants**  
*Maureen Carroll, DVM, DACVIM-SA (Internal Medicine)*
- **Common Ophthalmic Emergencies: Case Presentations**  
*Martin Coster, DVM, MS, DACVO (Ophthalmology)*

# We encourage you to contact Angell's specialists with questions.

Boston: 617-522-7282 | Waltham: 781-902-8400 | Veterinary Referrals: 617-522-5011

## CHIEF OF STAFF

**Ann Marie Greenleaf, DVM, DACVECC**  
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## 24-HOUR EMERGENCY & CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE, BOSTON

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**Becca Reader, BA, DVM, DACVAA**  
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**Anne Staudenmaier, VMD, DABVP (Avian Practice)**  
(Waltham)  
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**Patrick Sullivan, DVM, DABVP (Avian Practice)**  
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## BEHAVIOR (W/B)

**Terri Bright, PhD, BCBA-D, CAAB**  
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## CARDIOLOGY

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**Katie Hogan, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)**  
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**Clint Lynn, DVM**  
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**Michelle Oranges, DVM**  
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**Jordan Vitt, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)**  
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**Jessica Riehl, DVM, DAVDC**  
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**Joyce Tai, DVM, MS**  
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## DERMATOLOGY (W/B)

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**Meagan Painter, DVM, DACVD**  
(Waltham)  
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**Brooke Simon, DVM**  
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## DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING (W/B)

**Naomi Ford, DVM, DACVR**  
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**Steven Tsai, DVM, DACVR**  
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**Ruth Van Hatten, DVM, DACVR**  
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## INTERNAL MEDICINE (W/B)

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**Maureen Carroll, DVM, DACVIM**  
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**Zach Crouse, DVM, DACVIM**  
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**Lisa Gorman, DVM, DACVIM**  
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**Evan Mariotti, DVM, DACVIM**  
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*Service Director*  
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**Ursula Ramalho, DVM**  
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**Annie Sheu-Lee, DVM**  
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**Lindsey Summers, DVM**  
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**Daniela Vrabelova Ackley, DVM, DACVIM**  
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**Jennifer Michaels, DVM, DACVIM (Neurology)**  
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**Kendra Lyons, DVM (Medical Oncology)**  
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**Jillian Walz, DVM, DACVIM (Medical Oncology), DACVR (Radiation Oncology)**  
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## OPHTHALMOLOGY

**Daniel Biros, DVM, DACVO**  
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**Martin Coster, DVM, MS, DACVO**  
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## PATHOLOGY

**(CLINICAL & ANATOMIC)\***  
**Patty Ewing, DVM, MS, DACVP**  
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**Pamela Mouser, DVM, MS, DACVP**  
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**Michael Pavletic, DVM, DACVS**  
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**Jennifer Peterson-Levitt, DVM (Boston & Waltham)**  
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**Nicholas Trout, MA, VET MB, DACVS-SA, ECVS**  
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**Natasha Pakravan, DVM**  
npakravan@angell.org

## ANGELL AT ESSEX

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**Sara Gardiner, DVM**  
sgardiner@angell.org

REFERRAL ASSISTANCE: Boston: 617-522-5011 | Waltham: 781-902-8400

## Donation Honor Roll, 2020-2022

We would like to thank you for your generous support to our alumni funds!

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