

Obituary

In memory of Professor Steven J. Wickler

17 May 1952 – 26 May 2007

Dr Steven John Wickler, age 55, passed away peacefully at home on 26 May 2007 from a brain tumor. Graduate of the University of California, Riverside (Biology), the University of Michigan (Ph.D.) and the University of California, Davis (DVM), he served as the University Veterinarian, Director of Lab. Animal Facilities and Director of Equine Research at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, for 20 years. He received a significant number of awards and honors, including the 1991–92 Outstanding Advisor and the 1999–2000 Teacher of The Year in the College of Agriculture. He was also the 2000 recipient of the California State University's Wang Family Award in Teaching Excellence, as well as the USDA Western Region Award for Excellence in Higher Education Programs. He had authored 58 peer-reviewed papers, nine of which appeared in *The Journal of Experimental Biology*, 32 symposium articles and 124 professional presentations. His diverse scientific contributions included work on metabolism, thermoregulation, altitude physiology, and locomotor physiology and biomechanics (particularly on horses, which he published in the *JEB*). During his time at Cal Poly Pomona, Steve generated



substantial amounts of external funding to support research and help train graduate and undergraduate students. Through his undergraduate and graduate teaching, he played a key role in the education and inspiration of numerous scientists, veterinarians and physicians. Impressively, he mentored nearly 70 Masters students during his time at Cal Poly. Steve was known for his passion for science, boundless energy and infectious humor. He is survived by his wife Nicole and daughter Kaitlyn (Mt Baldy, CA), son Eric (Davis, CA), parents Don and Margie, brothers Dan and Tim (Rapid City, SD), nephew Josh (Denver, CO) and their families. His numerous friends both inside and outside the scientific community will miss him greatly. To honor his memory, the Steven J. Wickler Scholarship Fund has been established at Cal Poly Pomona's College of Science, 3801 W. Temple Ave, Pomona, CA 91768, USA. For more information about this fund, contact Mary Jo Gruca at mgruca@csupomona.edu.

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