



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Veterinary Medicine  
& Biomedical Sciences

November 2018

The mission of Heart Trust is to support cardiovascular health, projects, and clinical trials for companion animals and to honor special pets, animal enthusiasts, veterinarians and animal professionals.

*Heart Trust was established in 2008.*



## In the News



Cardiac MRI in Dogs with Chagas Disease: Our current third-year resident, **Dr. Derek Matthews**, recently completed enrollment into a project to expand our understanding of Chagas Disease in dogs.

Depth and internal diameter of the femoral artery and vein in dogs: **Dr. Katrina Cusack**, our second-year resident, is enrolling dogs into a project to characterize blood vessel size and body conformation in all breeds of dogs.

**Dr. Blakely Janacek** joined us as the first-year cardiology resident this year.



*Dr. Derek Matthews*



*Dr. Katrina Cusack*



*Dr. Blakely Janacek*

Texas A&M Cardiology is recruiting for enrollment in multiple studies:

- Doberman Pinschers with congestive heart failure for a study evaluating if gene therapy can help make the heart stronger and thus prolong their lives. To learn more: <https://bit.ly/2MtW0cp>
- Cavalier King Charles Spaniels with mitral valve disease that have never been in congestive heart failure for a study to determine breed-specific cardiac biomarker blood levels that can be used to predict the severity of heart enlargement. To learn more: <http://bit.ly/2QLwXh>



We are collaborating with Stethee Vet, the first stethoscope with artificial intelligence capabilities.

# How have your donations impacted our patients and the cardiology program at Texas A&M this year?



Your donations have been instrumental in providing funding for:

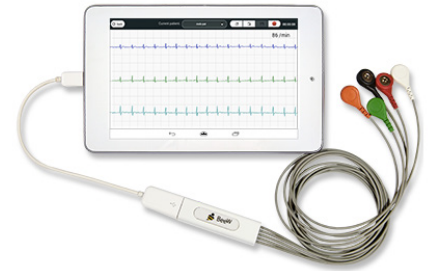
- Support for multiple dogs that required advanced imaging and procedures to correct their heart disease
- Towards the purchase of an additional echocardiographic machine for cardiac ultrasound

## How can you continue to show your support?

Our future goals for the cardiology program include:

### Equipment

- Portable, digital ECG device for smartphones (**approximately \$1,500**)
- Pressure injector for angiography in procedural cases to replace an older model (**approximately \$15,000; we have partial funding**)
- 3D imaging and continued development of novel training models and simulators (**approximately \$10,000**)
- Siemens CT Angiography upgrade to improve cardiac imaging which requires a rapid scan time for high quality images (**approximately \$167,000**)



### Endowed Position

- Cardiology Faculty Chair position (**minimum of \$500,000**)

### Continued Support

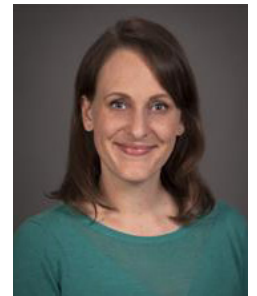
- for individual pets, projects and clinical trials



*For more information or to donate to Heart Trust, visit:*  
**[vetmed.tamu.edu/heart-trust](http://vetmed.tamu.edu/heart-trust)**



We are thankful to our generous donors who support us as we move forward with advancements in veterinary cardiology.



### The Cardiology Faculty

Dr. Sonya Gordon | Dr. Ashley Saunders | Dr. Sonya Wesselowski