



# HEARTTrust

every contribution helps a beating heart

NOVEMBER 2015



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

Our current third year resident, **Dr. Jordan Vitt**, has almost completed enrollment of cats into his resident project: Pharmacodynamics of Vetmedin® in Cats with Cardiomyopathy



Our current second year resident, **Dr. Kelley Doocy**, was awarded a competitive grant from Frankie's Friends Charitable Pet Foundation for her resident project which is well under way: Comparative Imaging of Patent Ductus Arteriosus in Dogs: Updating the Ductal Morphology Classification



**Dr. Bruno Boutet** joins us as our new 1st year cardiology resident.



Dr. Bruno Boutet

This fall, **Dr. Saunders** was awarded the Texas A&M Association of Former Students College-Level Teaching Award and has an upcoming highlight of our cutting edge 3D imaging applications in *Spirit Magazine*, a publication of the Texas A&M Foundation.



**Dr. Gordon** was an invited member of a European Society of Veterinary Cardiology task force to develop screening guidelines for dilated cardiomyopathy in Doberman Pinschers that were presented at the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ECVIM) Forum in Lisbon Portugal this fall.



Dr. Gordon and the other lead investigators of the EPIC clinical trial "Evaluating Pimobendan In Cardiomegaly" in dogs with preclinical chronic valvular disease are working hard to finalize the analysis of this groundbreaking study so the results can be published and presented at international meetings in 2016. The EPIC study is the largest study to date in veterinary cardiology involving 36 sites globally and 360 dogs (half of which were in the US), 16 dogs were enrolled at Texas A&M University.

## 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:

### Clinical Cases and Research

- Support for Dr. Doocy's PDA study
- Support for multiple dogs that required advanced imaging and procedures. Heart Trust support in combination with the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital has allowed us to become adept with a new minimally invasive procedure for the treatment of dogs with severe subaortic stenosis.



## How can you continue to show your support?

Our future goals for the cardiology program include:

### ● Equipment

zSpace unit for true 3D imaging to enhance teaching, assist with research projects, and for pre-surgical planning in cardiology (approximately \$10,000)

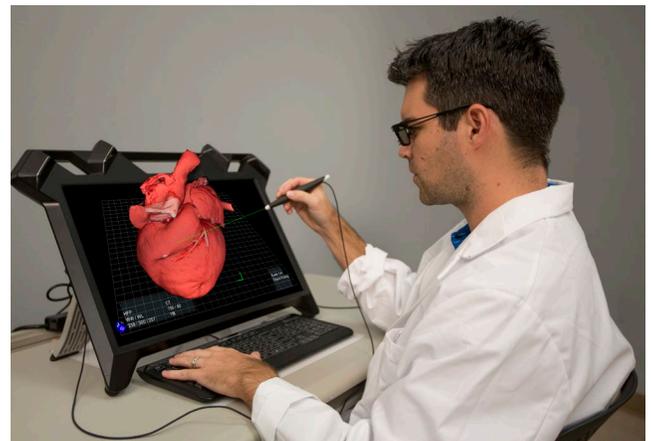
A new 3D echocardiographic imaging probe for the GE Vivid E9 ultrasound machines (approximately \$31,000 for transthoracic 4D volume phased array imaging probe)



Portable laptop echocardiographic machine (GE Vivid Q) to enable intracardiac imaging and mobile research projects (approximately \$80,000)

Towards the purchase of a new c-arm fluoroscopic unit to replace an older GE model. Fluoroscopic imaging is integral to our program and is used to perform minimally-invasive procedures (approximately \$300,000)

Siemens CT Angiography upgrade to improve cardiac imaging which requires a rapid scan time for high quality imaging (approximately \$167,000)



*Examining a heart with EchoPixel on zSpace*

### ● Endowed and Resident Positions

Three Year Cardiology Residency (approximately \$100,000 for 3 years)  
Cardiology Faculty Chair position (minimum of \$500,000)

### ● Continue support for individual pets, projects and clinical trials

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

For more information or to donate to Heart Trust please visit:

<http://vethospital.tamu.edu/small-animal-hospital/cardiology/heart-trust>