



PHOTOS BY MELODY KO

Veterinary School Celebrates a New Name

In 1978, the notion of a Tufts veterinary school was an ambitious blueprint, viewed by many as an idea that would never work. But within remarkably short time, even the toughest skeptics were impressed. On the sprawling, 580-acre Grafton campus, hospitals and barns were built and faculty recruited, students soon vied for admissions, and groundbreaking research raised veterinary science to a new potential.

Now the school has achieved another milestone and one that gives it a secure future. On May 5, the veterinary school officially took a new name, Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, in recognition of the generosity of Cummings Foundation, Inc., and its chief benefactors, William S. and Joyce M. Cummings. It is the first veterinary school

in the nation to be named for a donor. for the school and its champions. Its most recent and most generous advocate stepped forward last summer, when Cummings Foundation pledged to invest \$50 million in the school, one of the largest commitments ever made to a veterinary school in the United States or to a Massachusetts college or university.

In his remarks at the ceremony, President Lawrence S. Bacow focused on the close connection forged between the veterinary school and the Cummings family. "Our veterinary school now proudly bears a name synonymous with visionary leadership in business, education, and philanthropy," he said. "We are enormously grateful to Cummings Foundation and to Bill and Joyce Cummings for their confidence in the faculty, staff, and students who are dedicated to the humane treatment of animals, the advancement of new knowledge, and excellence in higher education."

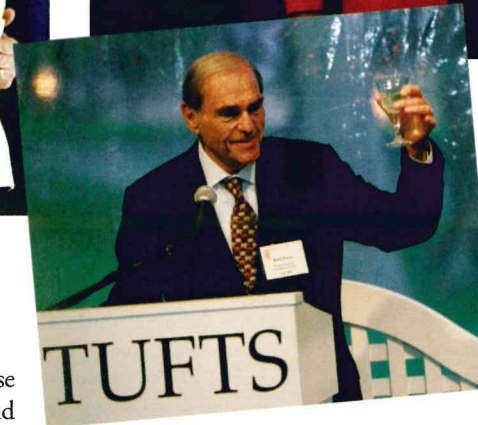
William S. Cummings, president of Cummings Foundation, graduated from Tufts in 1958. He has long been a valued contributor to his alma mater through his service as an overseer of Tufts Medical School, as a trustee of the university, and through the endowment of the Cummings Family Chair in Entrepreneurship and Business Economics (see profile, page 22).

"I am very proud of our close association with Tufts University, and, in particular, the newly renamed Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine," he said. "The Cummings School's role in fighting human com-

municable diseases, as well as those in animals, and in combating world famine cannot be overstated. It is also the only source of new veterinarians in New England, which is extremely important to the economy of the entire region."

During the ceremony, Dean Phil Kosch recognized the work of Dr. Thomas Murnane, who as Senior Vice President at Tufts for decades worked side-by-side with Presidents Jean Mayer and John DiBiaggio "to give this school a very strong start.

"Today we celebrate a new name and new potential," he said. "In our first quarter century, Tufts University's School of Veterinary Medicine became widely recognized as an entrepreneurial school, charting future directions for the veterinary profession. As the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, we intend to maintain that leadership role. 'Cummings' will be synonymous with innovation and excellence in veterinary education, service, and research."



William S. and Joyce Cummings acknowledge the standing ovation prompted when a banner was unfurled on May 5 at the official naming of the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine. Above, the Cummings are joined by President Lawrence S. Bacow and Adele Fleet Bacow at a special celebratory dinner, where Dr. Henry Foster, V83, H92, (left) raises a toast to the school. Foster and his wife, Lois, have provided pivotal support throughout the school's history, including their naming gift for the Henry and Lois Foster Hospital for Small Animals.

FIRSTS

The Cummings gift will complement state funding to enable the school to continue its tradition of providing one of the finest veterinary educations in the world. Some "firsts" worth noting are:

- ◆ The Cummings School is a pioneer in veterinary ethics and offers the world's only graduate degree (M.S.) in the field of human/animal relationships and related public policies. It also was the first institution of higher education to offer a four-year combined doctor of veterinary medicine (D.V.M.) and master of public health (M.P.H.) degree.
- ◆ National matching program data ranks the school first out of 28 in the number of graduates matched for internships and residencies over the last three years. The Henry and Lois Foster Hospital for Small Animals has the nation's largest residency-training program in veterinary emergency and critical care.
- ◆ The Foster Hospital for Small Animals ranks first among U.S. veterinary schools in the number of hospitalized patients and fourth in the number of patient visits.
- ◆ Nationally, on a per capita basis, the veterinary school faculty ranks first in research funding from the National Institutes of Health and fourth in total sponsored research funding.



Veterinary faculty, students, and staff took a break from their daily routines to join in the festivities; at left, they partake of the reception and accept commemorative T-shirts.