University College & Cummings School Partnership

University College (UC) is thrilled to announce our official partnership with the Cummings School through the deeply established and highly successful Adventures in Veterinary Medicine (AVM) Pre-College program.

In alignment with our mission to ‘expand access to our university by creatively catalyzing resources university-wide,’ UC is uniquely situated to support schools in their efforts to strengthen and grow new and existing programs. UC will leverage our resources to expand the reach of Cummings’ programs to the broader community. The partnership with Cummings marks the continuing expansion of our collaborations across the schools of Tufts!

The partnership builds upon UC’s previous connection to Cummings through our Tufts Summer Research Experience (TSRE), where students participate in the research being explored in the Discovery Pathology for Infectious Research Lab, under the mentorship of Principal Investigator Amanda Martinot, an Assistant Professor in Cummings’ Department of Infectious Disease and Global Health.

Both AVM and TSRE embody the Pre-College goal to attract a new and diverse pipeline of students to Tufts, with the intent to create a pathway to Cummings’ Doctor of Veterinary
The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Founded in 2000 as the Tufts Institute for Learning in Retirement, today's Tufts Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) provides community members 50 years of age or older with a variety of courses, peer-led study groups, special interest groups, and community events. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Tufts OLLI members would attend courses in person on Tufts Medford/Somerville campus or at our community partner, Brookhaven at Lexington. Since pivoting to offer both virtual and in-person programming, Tufts OLLI now supports members in over 60 different cities and towns in 15 different states.

In line with University College’s mission to serve people at all points in the educational journey, Tufts OLLI proudly offers courses taught by members, current graduate students, Tufts alumni, and Tufts staff. Tufts faculty members are the highlight of the weekly Lunch and Learn lecture series organized by a committee of dedicated Tufts OLLI volunteers. Most recently, the program was honored to welcome Dr. Parke Wilde and Trish Perez Kennealy from the Friedman School of Nutrition, Dr. Michael Levin, Dr. Gregory Carleton, Professor Maurice Emmanuel Parent, and Dr. Sara Lewis into the Tufts OLLI classrooms and zoom meetings during the fall lunch and learn lectures.
To learn more about getting involved with OLLI as a potential instructor, or to see the exciting future offerings, please visit olli.tufts.edu.

If you have any questions, please contact Callan Moody, Associate Director at callan.moody@tufts.edu

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**UC Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Megan Kiely Mueller**

Dr. Megan Kiely Mueller is a founding member of the University College Faculty and her academic journey truly embodies the "Tufts for Life" vision. In fact, Megan joined the **Adventures in Veterinary Medicine** program in high school, a program that allows students to have hands-on experience in the field of veterinary medicine. This program perhaps foreshadowed her upcoming and successful career at Tufts, as she went on to complete her bachelors, masters, and PhD in psychology and child development at Tufts before again diving into animal research.

Megan is now an Associate Professor in the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, the Co-Director of the Tufts Initiative for Human-Animal Interaction a senior fellow at the **Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life**, and she teaches in the M.S. in Animals and Public Policy program at the **Center for Animals and Public Policy**.

Dr. Mueller's **Pets and Well-Being Lab** conducts a range of research projects on pet ownership and positive youth development and animal-assisted interventions for adolescents with social anxiety. Megan's many contributions to Tufts give her a unique perspective as she advises on the growth of University College.

Her research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and private foundations, and her work has been published in numerous scientific journals and media outlets. Dr. Mueller currently serves on the board of directors for the **International Society for Anthrozoology** and the Human-Animal Bond Advisory Committee for **Pet Partners**.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the rest of the dedicated and committed UC Faculty.