Lemburg receives 2015 TVMDL Director’s Excellence Award

Annually, the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) honors staff that has gone above and beyond their duty to ensure that one of the nation’s busiest laboratories runs smoothly. This year, Facilities Coordinator Rodney Lemburg receives a 2015 TVMDL Director’s Excellence Award for the Administrative category.

Responsible for the maintenance and repair of the nearly 50-year-old laboratory in College Station, Lemburg is the glue that holds the agency headquarters together. He maintains more than 70 pieces of equipment and the more than 50,000 gross square feet of laboratory space.

Nominator Jordan Brod, agency operations manager, notes that Lemburg can perform his duties with minimal supervision, often fixing a problem before others are aware there is an issue.

Lemburg was hired at TVMDL in 2005, and former TVMDL Interim Executive Director and current Project Specialist M. Gayne Fearneyhough, DVM, was on the hiring selection committee. Dr. Fearneyhough recalls that with the first project he was asked to complete, Lemburg applies a level of excellence and superiority that surpasses the initial vision of the project needs.

“In any organization there are those individuals who provide the leadership and guidance that propels the organization forward,” said Dr. Fearneyhough. “When Rod Lemburg was hired, TVMDL was also struggling to understand and effectively manage the requirements of a new BL3 testing facility. The integration of the old and new required a person on site daily with the skills and motivation to find solutions to these complex issues. Fortunately for TVMDL, Mr. Lemburg was on hand to find solutions and complete exemplary work.”

Since hiring on to TVMDL, Lemburg has been integral in the laboratory successfully achieving BSL3 certification each year. In addition to standard maintenance duties, Lemburg is responsible for receipt and delivery of all consumable supplies delivered to TVMDL. He does this by inspecting each package and works closely with our Finance Section to enable seamless transactions. In addition, in 2015 he improved TVMDL’s preventative maintenance program for the College Station lab’s heating, ventilation and air conditioning system.

“Rod has truly outperformed this year,” said Brod. “Without properly maintained laboratory space, TVMDL could not serve its clients with the accuracy and timeliness that is the hallmark of our agency. Rod is extremely knowledgeable about TVMDL facilities, maintenance procedures and uses all means necessary to develop solutions to all issues.”

TVMDL employs more than 150 professionals that work diligently to uphold the agency’s mission to protect animal and human health through diagnostics. We congratulate all of the 2015 Director’s Excellence Award winners.

For more information on the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, visit tvmdl.tamu.edu.