

Wally Keller earned a D.V.M. from The Ohio State University in 1953, then came to MSU and taught in the College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) for one year before joining the service as a veterinarian in the Strategic Air Command (SAC). After returning from the SAC, Keller received his M.S. degree from MSU in ophthalmology and began teaching surgery courses within CVM. Keller was the first professor who taught surgery over live TV in Giltner Hall. He was appointed as chairman of the Vet Clinic and pushed for specialization in all areas of animal care for both large and small animals. While he was acting dean, Keller worked to build new clinical facilities and was instrumental in computerizing the entire College of Veterinary Medicine. He also developed the small animal clinic as well as ambulatory clinics where students traveled to local farms to make calls. Keller retired for the first time in 1987 but was asked to serve as Dean of the College for ten more years before his final retirement in 1997. He died on October 25, 2011.