

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE ACCREDITATION REPORT
AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**

Action Requested: Receive the accreditation report from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University.

Executive Summary: In 2003, the College of Veterinary Medicine underwent a re-accreditation review and was granted limited accreditation for a period of two years. The College was asked to address (1) declining teaching hospital facilities, (2) the need for a new isolation facility for animals with infectious diseases, and (3) the need to maintain appropriate numbers of clinical faculty in the teaching hospital. The accrediting agency required the College to file annual interim reports² on progress toward correcting the accreditation deficiencies; it also granted the College a two-year extension to correct the accreditation deficiencies. In 2007, on the basis of the annual interim report and the report of the focused site visit, the College of Veterinary Medicine received full accreditation until the next site visit in Fall 2010. The maximum period awarded by the accrediting agency is seven years. This report addresses the Board's Strategic Plan objective (1.1) to "offer high-quality programs through ongoing program improvement for undergraduate, graduate, professional, and non-degree students and special school students."

Background:

- ◇ **Description.** ISU's College of Veterinary Medicine was the first public veterinary college established in the United States (1879) and has graduated more than 6,200 veterinarians to date. The College includes the following academic departments – biomedical sciences, veterinary clinical sciences, veterinary diagnostic and production animal medicine, veterinary microbiology and preventive medicine, and veterinary pathology. The pathology training program for board-certification is ranked second in the U.S. by the American College of Veterinary Pathology.
- ◇ **2+2 Program with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.** In 2007, Iowa State University entered into an agreement with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) which would allow Nebraska students admitted to ISU's College of Veterinary medicine to complete their first two years at UNL and then transfer to ISU to complete the Veterinary Medicine program, which is not available at UNL. The ISU class size will be expanded to enroll 25 Nebraska students per year who will pay the in-state tuition rate; UNL will pay the differential between the in-state tuition rate and the non-resident tuition rate. The focus of the program will be on food production animal medicine. Availability of seats for Iowa residents will not be affected by this agreement.
- ◇ **Purpose of Accreditation.** An accredited educational program is recognized by its peers as having met national standards for its development and evaluation. Accreditation represents the highest standard of achievement for veterinary medical education in the U.S. Graduation from an accredited institution is a prerequisite for licensure or certification for professional practice.

² Three interim reports were filed (2004, 2005, and 2006).

- ◇ Accrediting Agency. The accrediting body is the Council of Education (COE) of the American Veterinary Medical Association. The COE administers the accreditation program under guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Education.
- ◇ Review Process. In May 2006, the College submitted an interim progress report which addressed new construction and renovation projects and timelines – Phase 1 includes the new food animal and equine hospital scheduled for completion in August 2008; Phase 2 includes the renovation and expansion of the small animal hospital scheduled for completion in late 2010. The report also included an update on the cooperative agreement with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- ◇ On-Site Team Report. In October-November 2006, the visiting team determined that the College of Veterinary Medicine was in compliance with the standards for accreditation.
- ◇ Recommendations Identified by the Visiting Team for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
 - ☑ “The time line for renovations at UNL must be coordinated to meet the starting date of August 2007.”
 - ☑ “Microbiology wet labs must address the special needs such as microscope storage, gas supply for culture procedures, and unique microbiology/wet lab instruction.”
 - ☑ “Safety needs for students, such as eye wash stations, personal and fire safety systems (showers or blankets) must be addressed.”
 - ☑ “Companion animals diagnostic techniques and hands-on experiences must be provided in the instruction offering in years one and two to mirror those at ISU.”
 - ☑ “Student support services must be clearly defined to provide for the ancillary needs of the veterinary students (e.g., financial aid counseling to manage student debt).”
 - ☑ “The admission interviewers should be provided with guidance and training to conduct standardized interviews.”
 - ☑ “Newly identified faculty positions should be filled as soon as possible to provide adequate time for the faculty to prepare for courses to be taught in fall semester 2007.”
 - ☑ “UNL needs to establish and activate a curriculum committee to integrate course material taught in VM1 and VM2 with the ISU program.”
 - ☑ “Clinical Foundations and Clinical Studies courses need to include a veterinarian to ensure clinical relevance in these courses, with special emphasis on normal and abnormal animal metabolism, pathophysiology, and disease.”
 - ☑ “Both universities must develop and use valid outcomes assessment tools to ensure the success of the 2+2 program.”
- ◇ Recommendations Identified by the Visiting Team for Iowa State University.
 - ☑ “Critical to meet the initiation dates for UNL students transferring to ISU and the ability to absorb the increased enrollment in years 3 and 4 of the 2+2 program are the new food animal hospital (phase 1) and companion animal hospital renovation (phase 2).”
 - ☑ “There will be a need to provide student services for an increased enrollment.”

- “The College of Veterinary Medicine should fill the new positions as proposed in the time frame necessary to meet the teaching needs of the 2+2 program.”
 - “The faculty at ISU should work closely with the faculty at UNL to coordinate the curriculum at both institutions to ensure educational quality at both institutions.”
 - “Both universities must develop and use valid outcomes assessment tools to ensure the success of the 2+2 program.”
- ◇ Accreditation Status. In March 2007, the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association awarded full accreditation to the College of Veterinary Medicine for a three-year period; the maximum period awarded by the accrediting agency is seven years. The College is required to submit an interim report in 2007 with assessment outcome data and a clear delineation of how the data are used to improve the curriculum.

Details about the accreditation report are available in the Board Office.