

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

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

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

**Executive Summary:** The College of Veterinary Medicine (1) underwent a self-study that addressed the standards and criteria defined by the accrediting body; and (2) had an on-site visit by peer evaluators. The College was accredited for a period not to exceed seven years. The College was asked to review the Council's recommendations and address concerns identified in the report on its next Interim Report. This report addresses the Board of Regents Strategic Plan priority to provide "educational excellence and impact" as well as Goal #8 – "Iowa's public universities and special schools shall be increasingly efficient and productive."

**Background:**

- ◇ **Description of College.** The College of Veterinary Medicine is dedicated to the enhancement of the health and well-being of animals and human beings through excellence in education, research, professional practice, and committed service to the state, the nation, and the world. The College provides professional and graduate education and the application of knowledge to promote animal and human health with significant influence on society's food supply.
- ◇ **Agreement with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.** In 2007, Iowa State University entered into an agreement with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) which allows Nebraska students admitted to ISU's College of Veterinary Medicine to complete their first two years at UNL and transfer to ISU to complete the Veterinary Medicine Program, which is not available at UNL. The ISU class size was expanded to enroll 25 Nebraska students per year. UNL students pay the in-state tuition rate and UNL pays the differential between the in-state tuition rate and the non-resident tuition rate. The focus of the program is on food production animal medicine. Availability of seats for Iowa residents is not affected by this agreement.
- ◇ **Purpose of Accreditation.** An accredited educational program is recognized by its peers as having met state and national standards for its development and evaluation. To employers, graduate schools, and licensure, certification, and registration boards, graduation from an accredited program signifies adequate preparation for entry into the profession. In fact, many of these groups require graduation from an accredited program as a minimum qualification. Accreditation is also intended to protect the interests of students, benefit the public, and improve the quality of teaching, learning, research, and professional practice.
- ◇ **Accrediting Agency.** The accrediting body is the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).
- ◇ **Review Process.** The self-study prepared by the College of Veterinary Medicine contained the responses to the standards required by the accrediting body – organization; finances; physical facilities and equipment; clinical resources; library and information resources; students; admission; faculty; curriculum; research programs; and outcomes assessment.

- ◇ On-Site Team Report. In December 2010, the visiting team determined that the College of Veterinary Medicine met the requirements for accredited status although a number of recommendations were communicated to the College.
  
- ◇ Strengths Identified by the Visiting Team. The Visiting Team identified the following strengths:
  - ⇒ “Visionary leadership was required to successfully develop and implement the 2005-2011 College Strategic Plan.
  - ⇒ The College has managed its integrated planning process well in economically turbulent times.
  - ⇒ The new large animal teaching hospital and isolation facility provides an outstanding environment for student learning.
  - ⇒ The School is commended for enhancing the student clinical experience through the provision of outstanding learning activities at Great Plains Veterinary Educational Center (GPVEC) in Clay Center, Nebraska.
  - ⇒ The dairy rotation provides an outstanding learning experience.
  - ⇒ Students are highly supportive of faculty and administration.
  - ⇒ The College is commended for developing and implementing a comprehensive, effective, efficient, and consistent admission process.
  - ⇒ Faculty are dedicated to teaching and responsive to student needs.
  - ⇒ UNL is commended for integrating exposure to live animal experiences during years one and two of the professional curriculum.
  - ⇒ Both ISU and UNL complimented the ISU instructional technology resources staff for their enhancement of curricular delivery.
  - ⇒ The College is commended for effectively promoting the importance of research in the professional program.
  - ⇒ The College is commended for creation of the Office of Curricular and Student Assessment.”
  
- ◇ Recommendations Suggested by the Visiting Team. None of the recommendations suggested by the visiting team represent non-compliance for a standard or require a response.
  - ⇒ “UNL is encouraged to broaden administrative and faculty involvement in the developing program.
  - ⇒ UNL must report revenue and expenditures dedicated to the professional program in veterinary medicine rather than from the entire school budget.
  - ⇒ The GPVEC should implement an effective inventory control system for pharmaceuticals.
  - ⇒ UNL should consult with the Environmental Health Safety Office to ensure formaldehyde concentrations in the anatomy lab are within safety limits and must provide an update in next year’s interim report.

- ⇒ UNL samples shipped to the Diagnostic Laboratory should not be received through the public reception area.
  - ⇒ The College is encouraged to implement plans to renovate classroom 2226.
  - ⇒ The College should inform the AVMA Council of Education through interim reports as sections of the small animal teaching hospital in Phase II become functional.
  - ⇒ The College should ensure that data collection and reporting are complete and accurate.
  - ⇒ UNL and the College must ensure an anonymous method is available to collect student comments relative to the accreditation standards.
  - ⇒ UNL is encouraged to harmonize its admissions policies and procedures with those at ISU.
  - ⇒ The College is encouraged to develop a staffing plan to provide adequate technical support to enhance educational efficiency and the delivery of clinical service.
  - ⇒ Both UNL and ISU must develop a process that provides a regular and holistic joint review of the curriculum; relevant faculty from both institutions should meet regularly to address common curricular issues.
  - ⇒ The College is encouraged to refine the use of outcomes assessment data in guiding curricular reform.
  - ⇒ The College should validate the clinical competence of individual students; for example, by following through on plans for a clinical assessment laboratory and use of the E\*Value tracking system.”
- ◆ Institution’s Implemented or Planned Changes. Protocols for the large animal isolation facility were posted within days of the site visit. The College will ensure that data on ambulatory/field service programs and herd/flock health programs are accurate.
- ◆ Accreditation Status. In April 2011, the American Veterinary Medical Association awarded accreditation to the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University for a period not to exceed seven years. The College was asked to review the recommendations in the evaluation report and address any concerns in the next interim report.