



Fur, Feather, Scales and Tails

WSU College of Veterinary Medicine Admissions Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2

December 2006

Admissions 2006/07 underway!

The application period for 2006/07 has closed. Applications are in, scores and letters of recommendation should have been received.

The WSU Admissions Committee members are reading and evaluating applications as this is being written.

So, if you applied... now what? Unfortunately this is probably one of the least favorite parts of the admissions process (besides trying to write the personal statement!) because all you can do is wait and wonder.

Keep in mind, it doesn't do

much good to call the Office of Student Services to get an update because all we can tell you is that the committee is busy reading applicant files.

So, what can you expect in the way of a timeline? Hopefully this will help calm a few nerves:

December—Admissions committee is reviewing ap-

plications and submits WICHE rankings to the WICHE offices. Notice for Idaho interviews will be mailed out.

January—The committee will send out notices for Out-of-Area and Washington interviews. Idaho interviews take place the 18th and 19th.

February— Admissions committee will interview Out-of-Area candidates the 12th-14th. The Washington interviews will follow the 26th-28th. The WSU Admissions Committee should receive final

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Dr. Rance Sellon examines a client's cat in the WSU Teaching Hospital.

FAST FACTS:

- WSU-CVM is the 5th oldest of the 27 veterinary schools in the United States.
- At nearly 3-acres, the College of Veterinary Medicine includes the hospital, clinical laboratory and epidemiological surveillance service, all under one roof.
- Veterinarians at WSU-CVM installed the first cardiac defibrillator into a dog.

Thoughts from a 2nd-year Student

My name is Evelyn and I am now in my second year of vet school at Washington State University. Currently I am hoping to specialize in Zoo Medicine, with emphasis on marine mammals, but would be happy to be working in a mixed practice for my first few years out of vet

school. I, like many of my classmates, have always known that I wanted to work with animals, and once I went to SeaWorld San Diego I knew that my dream would be to work with dolphins one day. I was told right away that there was a very low chance of me ever

succeeding with my goals, and if I ever wanted to get into vet school, I had to have high grades, lots of vet experience, and a bit of luck. I have found that this statement was partially true; sure, I kept my grades up and had plenty of vet experi-

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Evelyn's Bio/Perspective, con't.

ence, but what really got me into vet school was what else I could offer.

I grew up in Tucson, Arizona, which is an area with a lot of Spanish speakers, so most students in the area were expected to take some sort of Spanish classes. I always really enjoyed speaking another language, especially when I could see that the person I was talking to really appreciated my effort. I decided to continue my education through AP Spanish and college, and received a minor in Spanish when I got my degree in Zoology from WSU. I know realize how helpful my Spanish will be if I ever want to go into large animal medicine, as most farm managers/owners in California, Arizona, even up into Oregon

are native Spanish speakers, and these are the people I will need to get the histories of all my patients from. It will also vastly expand my client base, as I will be able to work for clients who perhaps cannot speak English, and therefore have a hard time telling the American doctor what exactly they brought "Fluffy" in for today.

Besides taking language classes, I



WSU 2nd-year DVM student, Evelyn

would also suggest participating in one of the honors pre-vet programs that WSU offers, as I had a very good experience with it. Libby Walker is a wonderful advisor in the Honors College, who has helped many pre-vet students realize their dream. Since vet school does take a long time to finish (4 years after undergrad) I was worried about having time to have a family and have a real life before the age of 30. The honors program helped with that, as they allow pre vet students to finish their undergrad curriculum in 3 years, and immediately go into vet school (as they have already applied and been accepted during their

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Who's your Advisor?

A pre-vet advisor can be one of the most helpful people to a pre-vet student. They help you schedule classes that will best prepare you for a rigorous pro-

fessional DVM curriculum, as well as help you determine the equivalency of any pre-requisite courses. Some pre-vet advisors are also DVMs, so they can

"A pre-vet advisor can be one of the most helpful people to a pre-vet student."

help guide you in terms of pre-veterinary experience.

If you are not already meeting with a pre-vet advisor, or aren't sure if there is one at your school, please feel

free to get in touch with Abbie (abbiedem@vetmed.wsu.edu) and she'll check the list of pre-vet advisors that she has to help you find someone.

If you have an advisor that might not be a designated "pre-vet advisor," but is super helpful and knowledgeable about pre-vet preparation, also please let Abbie know so she can share their name with students in the future.

The best place to find a pre-vet advisor at your school is to start at your Office of Admissions or Registrar's Office. If there isn't a pre-vet advisor, also check into a pre-health advisor.

Coming to visit WSU—what you need to know!

If you have been thinking about attending WSU, for undergrad or for the professional DVM program, one of the best things you can do before you make your final decision is come and visit.

If you want to come to check out the DVM program, you can contact Abbie DeMeerleer or Barbara Hodson to set up a visit. The day usually consists of going to a DVM class, taking a tour of

the facilities (given by one of our student ambassadors) and meeting with the Associate Dean of Student Affairs. If you let us know any particular areas of interest you have, we can try to help you get extra information in that area.

If you do plan to visit the College of

Veterinary Medicine, please remember that we need **at least a week's notice** to make sure a visit can be arranged.



If you are interested in checking out WSU for undergraduate studies, you can set up a campus visit at: [http://](http://www.wsu.edu/future-students/visits/index.html)

www.wsu.edu/future-students/visits/index.html



Admissions 2006-07, continued

WICHE rankings and make corresponding offers.

March — Offers of admission, alternate status or denial should have been mailed.

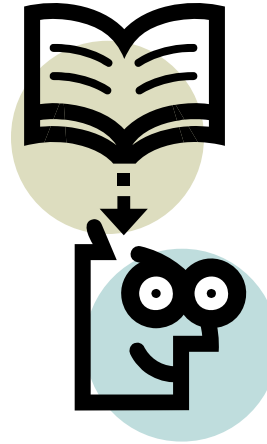
April — The national deadline for accepting or declining offers is the **15th!**

May — After the 1st, non-selected applicants may contact the Office of Student Services to discuss how to strengthen their application in the fu-

ture.

The only other thing that applicants to WSU-CVM need to get in as soon as possible (if you haven't already) is your \$40 processing fee. If you have questions, you can contact Ms. Barbara Hodson at: bhodson@vetmed.wsu.edu.

If you didn't apply this year, now at least you have an idea



of what to expect and can start thinking about your admissions preparations. Applications will be made available online starting June 1st, so you have time between now and then to get things in order. For more information, check out: <http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/prospectiveStudents/dates.asp>

Evelyn's Bio/Perspective, con't.

sophomore year). Because I knew that I was already in vet school, my stress levels were cut way down during my senior year, and I was able to concentrate on the high level biology classes I was taking at the time and not have to worry about GRE's and applications. The honors program also provided an unexpected bonus: I decided to participate in a program called "The School for Field Studies" to complete my thesis requirement, and chose to go to an island chain called the Turks and Caicos to do a study on coral

"...keep on with your interests and hobbies- don't forget to expand your personality and worldliness while expanding your scientific knowledge."

reef. During my interview, when I mentioned where I was planning on going, my committee was very impressed that I was going to a country that none of them had ever heard of, which apparently got me the gold star I needed to get into vet school. I was a bit flabbergasted when I discovered that this summer trip was the deciding factor that helped me achieve my dream, once I thought about it, it made sense. I realized that grades, test scores and experience were all necessary and expected, what this interview committee was

looking for was someone with all that, AND something to make them special. So I suppose my best advice to someone interested in vet school is YES- volunteer with your vet, join 4-H, study hard, but also keep on with your interests and hobbies- don't forget to expand your personality and worldliness while expanding your scientific knowledge. Best wishes and Good luck!

If you have questions for Evelyn, or would just like more information from her, please email her via: admissions@vetmed.wsu.edu.

Student Services/Faculty Bio

A very important member of the Student Services team is Barbara Hodson. Barbara is the Admissions Coordinator, as she puts it, "the front end of vet school."

Barbara processes and answers application questions for applying students. She sets up interviews, tours of the hospital, sends correspondence letters and brochures, and makes sure

each student has all the required information in their application file.

She works with Dr. Gil Burns, Barb Robbins and Abbie DeMeerleer to ensure that all future students receive the infor-



mation they need to complete the application process, visit the school and get their DVM degree.

Barbara enjoys all types of needlework, visiting the ocean, camping, riding 4-wheelers and being with her husband, 3 grown daughters, their husbands and her 5 grandchildren.

You can contact Barbara at: bhodson@vetmed.wsu.edu.

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College of Veterinary Medicine

We're on the Web!

www.vetmed.wsu.edu

We're also on MySpace at:

www.myspace.com/wsuveterinarymedicine.com

**Don't forget the WSU
CVM Open House will
be held April 14, 2007!**

The Washington State University (WSU) College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) is the 5th oldest CVM in North America. WSU is a non-tracking program and home to the newest teaching hospital in the nation. The WSU CVM provides enrollment access to Washington and Idaho resident students and has a long history of serving Arizona, Hawaii, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming through the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) Compact. The program also accepts students from all over the nation and the world.

Upon satisfactory completion of this program, the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree is conferred by the Regents of Washington State University (WSU). A minimum of seven years is required to obtain the DVM degree. These seven years represent three or more years of pre-professional (pre-veterinary) training, which can be obtained at WSU, UI, or other institutions with equivalent courses, followed by four years of professional study in the DVM program at WSU. The DVM program at Washington State University is fully accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association's (AVMA) Council on Education.

Happy Holidays!

All the members of the Student Services team at Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine would

like to wish you a very safe and happy holiday season!

We know it can be a stressful time of the year, but we hope that you are able to enjoy yourself and the time you have off from school. Before you leave, good luck on all your exams and finals!

Don't forget to register for spring classes and be sure to check with your pre-vet/academic advisor with regard to pre-requisite courses.

Holidays can be a great time to visit your local clinic, animal hospital or shelter and gain a few more hours of pre-veterinary experience.



All the best as you celebrate the end of 2006 and look toward the possibilities in 2007! We hope you'll let us know if we can

ever be of help as you think about a career in veterinary medicine!

Season's Greetings ~

WSU-CVM Student Services

Gil, Abbie, Barbara, Barb and Lisa

