November’s E-Update

This month’s edition focuses on Veterinary Medicine. Featured are interviews with the Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, as well as Dr. Wil-liam Hueston, one of the industry’s leading researchers in veterinary public health. We hope you enjoy this glimpse into the rapidly changing field of veterinary medicine.

Career Spotlight: Veterinary Medicine

A New Career for a New Age
If you are interested in a career where you can travel, work with strategists who are protecting our country from bioterrorism, solve complex problems, defeat disease in large numbers, and work with people and animals in the same day, then becoming a veterinarian might be for you!

Historically, veterinarians were the right-hand support to farmers and cattle-breeders, and the compassionate small animal guardians, caring for our pampered pets. Today, the work of veterinarians is expanding and responding to new demands.

Veterinarians are showing up in places distinctly different than in the past: in large corporations involved in food production; in governmental agencies addressing health issues affecting both animals and humans, like avian influenza and West Nile virus; and working hand-in-hand with microbiologists to create new vaccines.

The Leading Edge
The College of Veterinary Medicine is at the leading edge of creating these new veterinarians, while maintaining the traditional role of the large animal and small animal veterinarians.

Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM), is excited about the future of this field. In a recent interview conducted by a Health Careers Center staff member, he stated that students can’t imagine the range of exciting opportunities and jobs that await them.

When asked what makes the U of M the right choice for students, Dr. Klausner explained that the U is the right choice for students who “...want to be leaders in this emerging field, and not just positional leaders, but people who will lead regardless of what part of the profession they are in.”

He stressed that with the mobility of this field, students may start in small-animal care and change to working with large animals at a later time, or some other aspect of the field. They can even return to for a Ph.D. and work in bio-medical research.

College of Veterinary Medicine
The degree earned is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.). The program is innovative, using integrated teaching and technology, as well as clinical courses during the first two years. Learn more at www.cvm.umn.edu.

The four-year curriculum is a fully accredited program based on the standards established by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Come for a Visit!
Visit the College of Veterinary Medicine at their annual open house on Sunday, April 1, 2007, from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. For details, contact the college at dvminfo@umn.edu or 612-624-4747. General information sessions about the veterinary program are held at the college on the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month beginning at 1:30 p.m.

www.healthcareers.umn.edu

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Veterinary Public Health

Veterinary Public Health is an exciting field where veterinarians work on diseases and illness which affect large populations... in both animals and humans, where animal-based illness causes disease in human health (a field called zoonoses).

From front-page news articles on avian influenza to the health of Minnesota’s animals on farms, veterinary public health is a growing field, working to ensure the public’s safety and health, beginning with the health of the animals that are crucial to our food supply.

No Ordinary Day
The U of M College of Veterinary Medicine enjoys a growing and dynamic relationship with its on-campus partner, the School of Public Health.

According to Dr. William Hueston, a faculty member with a dynamic career in veterinary medicine and public health, “My work is like living on the Discovery Channel; it’s a combination of crime scene investigators and myth busters – tackling emerging issues and difficult problems in Minnesota, around the nation, and the world. When I come to work on any given day, I can’t often imagine what new disease might emerge, or what complex issues will arise. Veterinary Medicine is a very energizing, exciting, and rewarding field. In my job I’m constantly meeting new people, learning new things and making a real difference in the world.”

Curious Risk-Takers and More
Dr. Hueston went on to describe the type of person that should consider veterinary medicine as a career, “individuals who are curious by nature, willing to take risks. Veterinarians also need to enjoy working with people and be comfortable with math and science.

“If you are motivated to make a difference in this world, and have that set of skills, there is a tremendous wealth of challenges that translates into opportunities for students choosing veterinary medicine to make it safer to eat, to identify innovative disease prevention strategies, to develop more effective and responsive disease control responses, to contribute to new medical discoveries that protect people, and animals from disease on an individual and population level”.

A Changing Field
Dr. Hueston referenced a quote he had heard that, “The future won’t be about solving problems but about managing dilemmas.”

Future veterinarians will be members of interdisciplinary teams and will work side by side with health providers, wild-life managers, and a number of others we haven’t even thought of yet to come up with more flexible disease control programs.

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Upcoming Events
See details and register for these events at www.hccevents.umn.edu.

Resume Writing for a Health Career
Tues, Nov 7, at 1:15 pm

Pharmacy Info Sessions
Tues, Nov 7, at 11:30 am
Thurs, Nov 30, at 12:00 pm

Preparing for Medical School
Wed, Nov 8, at 9:30 am

Experience Builders: Exploring Volunteer, Research, and Other Health Care Opportunities
Tues, Nov 14, at 3:30 pm

Nursing Information Session (BSN)
Wed, Nov 15, at 9:30 am

Scientific and Technical Writing
Thurs, Nov 16, at 11:00 am

Dental School Advising Sessions
Tues, Nov 21, at 4:00 pm

Medical Technology Info Session
Wed, Nov 15, at 1:00 pm

A Physician’s Life
Tues, Nov 28, at 3:30 pm

Writing a Personal Statement for Health Professional Schools
Thurs, Nov 30, at 1:30 pm

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November is:
Alzheimer’s Disease Awareness Month
www.alz.org/

COPD Awareness Month
www.uscopd.com/

American Diabetes Month
www.diabetes.org/home.jsp

Epilepsy Awareness Month
www.epilepsyfoundation.org/

Flu and Pneumonia Campaign
www.cdc.gov/flu/

Great American Smokeout
www.cancer.org/docroot/home/index.asp

Healthy Skin Month
www.aad.org/

Hospice Month
www.hpcgo.org/templates/1/homepage.cfm

Jaw Joints - TMJ Awareness Month
www.tmj.org

Lung Cancer Awareness Month
www.alcase.org/

Marrow Awareness Month
www.marrow.org/

Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month
www.pancan.org/

Prematurity Awareness Month
www.marchofdimes.com/

Pulmonary Hypertension) Awareness Month
www.phassociation.org/

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