



University of Idaho

Idaho

(Washington-Idaho-Montana-Utah, WIMU)

Veterinary Medical Education Program/

Caine Veterinary Teaching Center

STRATEGIC PLAN

FY2016 - 2020

Idaho (Washington-Idaho-Montana-Utah, WIMU) Veterinary Medical Education Program/ Caine Veterinary Teaching Center

STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2020

VISION STATEMENT:

Improved health and productivity of Idaho's food-producing livestock

MISSION STATEMENT:

Transfer science-based medical information and technology concerning animal well-being, zoonotic diseases, food safety, and related environmental issues – through education, research, public service, and outreach – to veterinary students, veterinarians, animal owners, and the public, thereby effecting positive change in the livelihood of the people of Idaho and the region.

Authority and Scope:

The original Tri-State Veterinary Education Program (WOI Regional Program – Washington State University, Oregon State University, and University of Idaho) was authorized in 1973 by the Idaho Legislature (SJM 127). The Program in Idaho is administered by the State Board of Education and The Board of Regents of the University of Idaho. The first Idaho-resident students were enrolled in the program in 1974. In September 1977, the Caine Veterinary Teaching Center (CVTC) at Caldwell, an off-campus unit of the University of Idaho's then Veterinary Science Department, was opened as a part of Idaho's contribution to the WOI Regional Program in Veterinary Medicine. Oregon withdrew from the cooperative program in 2005. In 2012, Washington State University and Utah State University (USU) announced a new educational partnership (W-I-U). In 2013, Montana State University (MSU) became a fourth partner in what is now known as the Washington-Idaho-Montana-Utah (WIMU) Regional Program in Veterinary Medicine. The first DVM class to include MSU students was admitted in Fall 2014.

The CVTC serves as a food animal referral hospital/teaching center located in Caldwell where senior veterinary students from Washington State University/College of Veterinary Medicine (WSU/CVM) participate in elective rotations on food animal production medicine. The CVTC program is administered through the Department of Animal and Veterinary Science (AVS) in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS) at the University of Idaho.

The Program allows Idaho resident students access to a veterinary medical education through a cooperative agreement with WSU, whereby students are excused from paying out-of-state tuition. The program currently provides access for 11 Idaho-resident students per year (funding for 44 students annually).

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) accredits the WIMU Program. Faculty members are specialized in virology, bacteriology, pharmacology, epidemiology, medicine, and surgery, and hold joint appointments between the UI College of Agricultural and Life Sciences in the AVS Department (scholarly activities/research/service) and the WIMU Regional Program in Veterinary Medicine (education/service/outreach/engagement).

The service and diagnostic components of the CVTC are integral to the food animal production medicine teaching program, offering clinical and laboratory diagnostic assistance for individual animal care or disease outbreak investigation for veterinarians and livestock producers in Idaho and surrounding states. Live animals referred by practicing veterinarians are utilized as hospital teaching cases for students when on rotation at that time. Students have access to select, in-house laboratories to process samples they collect and analyze the results. Practicing veterinarians throughout the state who need diagnostic help with disease problems also send samples directly to the laboratories at the CVTC for analyses. Diagnostic services and assistance are also provided to Idaho State Department of Agriculture and to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. When additional services are required or requested by practitioners, personnel at CVTC receive, process, and ship samples to other diagnostic laboratories.

Supervision and leadership for programs, operations, the faculty and staff at the CVTC are the responsibility of the Director, Dr. Gordon W. Brumbaugh with administrative responsibility by the Head of the AVS Department, Dr. Mark McGuire, and Dean of CALS, Dr. John Foltz.

Education:

Faculty provides 1- to 4-week blocks of time designed to prepare veterinary students for entry-level positions upon graduation. Blocks target general food animal medicine, dairy production medicine, cow/calf management, feedlot medicine, sheep/lambing management, and small ruminant clinical medicine.

Activities are selected that allow the student to develop and gain confidence in technical skills as well as professional critical thinking and management of information. Disease agents, fluid therapy, appropriate drug use, nutrition, diagnostic sampling, and necropsy are examples of skills emphasized during individual animal medicine instruction. Production animal medicine stresses development of confidence with professional and technical skills, disease prevention strategies, investigational skills, animal well-being, recordkeeping and interpretation, and reduction of stress for beef or dairy cattle, and for small ruminants (primarily sheep and goats).

Five faculty positions are budgeted within the Idaho Vet Med Program. In 2013, one faculty member that was stationed at the Moscow campus resigned and has not yet been replaced. Three faculty members are stationed at the CVTC, Caldwell, ID, with an additional vacancy there. The Dawn and Wes Downs Pre-Veterinary Internship Endowed Scholarship, which was initiated in 2013, will become fully-endowed in 2015. This scholarship supports one AVS undergraduate pre-vet student annually during a summer experiential internship at the Caine Center. The Northwest-Bovine Veterinary Experience Program (NW-BVEP) – started in 2007 for a limited number of first- and second-year WSU/CVM veterinary students – is a 6-week summer dairy/beef veterinary experiential learning program funded primarily by grants and gifts.

The CVTC and AVS faculty are involved in statewide producer educational programs using the CVTC facilities, when appropriate, to offer continuing education programs for veterinarians and livestock producers.

Scholarly Activities/Research/Service:

Nationally- and internationally- acclaimed research has been conducted at the CVTC and includes subjects of neonatal calf diseases and fluid therapy, reproductive diseases of cattle and sheep, EID (electronic identification) of beef cattle, Johne's disease in cattle, sheep, and goats, and scrapie in sheep. Collaboration with the Idaho Department of Fish & Game regarding wildlife/domestic livestock disease interaction has resulted in elucidation of respiratory organisms causing death in bighorn sheep. Research in many of those areas developed out of past experiences involving teaching/clinical or diagnostic services/outreach. Those activities serve as a source for continuing investigational activities. Funding to conduct research is derived from a variety of sources and results have been published in numerous scientific papers. The research is dedicated primarily to that relevant to regional disease problems.

Service/Outreach/Engagement/Extension:

Faculty members of the CVTC have responsibility for outreach activities, although none have official Extension appointments. Their routine activities such as regular interaction and consultation with livestock producers, commodity groups, veterinarians, UI Extension specialists, and others regarding a variety of topics including production medicine, disease diagnostics, control and prevention of disease, and management of reproductive problems are all service-oriented. These activities are major contributors to "hours of operation" of the CVTC and include receiving, processing, and/or shipping of samples for diagnostic services requested by practicing veterinarians. Faculty members contribute material on a regular basis to lay publications and industry newsletters, and are active in state and national professional associations. Faculty and staff members organize on-site tours for individual students, groups, or organizations as well as area residents who are interested in our activities, give presentations at county and state fairs, and participate in "Career Day" or "Job Fair" events at area high schools.

Selective diagnostic services, disease investigations, and clinical studies have significantly benefited many producers through the control of a number of economically devastating diseases. That form of assistance is provided on a fee-for-service basis and in conjunction with the veterinary teaching program.

Goal 1. Education

Objective A: Continue to provide and improve the highly-rated and effective experiential veterinary clinical teaching program.

Action Items:

- Ensure offerings of elective rotations for experiential learning opportunities that meet contractual requirements (minimum of 65 rotations offered)

Performance Measures:

- Percentage of elective offerings (blocks) filled
- Number of senior selecting rotations at CVTC
- Number/percentage of Idaho resident graduates licensed to practice veterinary medicine in Idaho

Benchmark:

- Student participation in at least 80% of elective rotations offered
- Greater than 40 students selecting rotations at CVTC
- At least 7 Idaho resident graduates (65%) licensed to practice veterinary medicine in Idaho

Objective B: Pre-clinical veterinary educational opportunities

Action items:

- Administer experiential summer learning opportunities for first- and second-year students in veterinary education program (Northwest Bovine Veterinary Experience Program – NW-BVEP)
- Administer experiential learning opportunities for endowed pre-veterinary summer internship and scholarship

Performance Measures:

- Annual recurring placement of students

Benchmark:

- Total of 12 first- and second-year veterinary students in the NW-BVEP annually
- One student annually selected to receive the internship/scholarship

Goal 2. Scholarly and Creative Activity

Objective: To provide the atmosphere, environment, encouragement, and time for faculty members to cultivate and nurture their scholarly and creative abilities.

Action Items:

- Encourage faculty to remain influential in their professional/educational disciplines appropriate to the educational mission of the CVTC
- Contribute to the AVS Department areas of excellence and the CALS Beef Program of Distinction by the Idaho Veterinary Medical Education Program

Performance Measures:

- Number of fellows in disciplinary associations
- Personnel elected to leadership role in professional organizations
- Personnel invited to participate as presenters/speakers/advisors for professional organizations, private businesses, or public agencies/institutions
- External grants received
- Refereed journal articles

Benchmark:

- Participation in at least one departmental area of excellence and in the CALS Beef POD
- At least one invited presentation by each faculty member to local, state, regional, national, or international meeting.
- At least one external research grant per year funded for scholarly activities for the CVTC beyond Idaho Fish and Game support of Dr. Weiser and funding of NW-BVEP
- At least one refereed journal article published per year per faculty FTE

Goal 3. Outreach and Engagement

Objective A: Provide diagnostic laboratory, referral professional services, consultation, and field services for the veterinarians and livestock producers in Idaho and the region.

Action Items:

- Update clinical and laboratory instrumentation as budgets allow; thereby, maintaining or enhancing diagnostic laboratory testing procedures and services for veterinarians and livestock producers in the region.
- Encourage continuing education (personal and professional development) by laboratory or clinical support personnel in their given specialty.

Performance Measures:

- Number of field investigations; number of animals/herds served
- Number of laboratory diagnostic and live animal case accessions
- Demonstrate utilization of new clinical and laboratory instrumentation

Benchmarks:

- At least 250 live-animal clinical accessions per year
- At least 10,000 laboratory accessions per year
- At least 150 field investigations per year
- At least 75 necropsies per year

Objective B: Endeavor to recruit potential students in Idaho and the region who are interested in careers in agriculture and/or veterinary medicine.

Action Items:

- Encourage the participation of faculty and staff in Extension activities, community activities such as “job fairs”, 4-H/FFA activities, and county fairs in order to elevate the visibility of the CVTC, AVS, CALS, and UI; and, to discuss future needs and careers in agriculture or veterinary medicine.

Performance Measures:

- Number of job fairs, career day or fair activities, or Extension-sponsored meetings in which faculty and staff participated

Benchmarks:

- Participation in at least 10 community activities as described above

External Factors:

1) Caseload. Numbers vary for live animal and diagnostic accessions subject to need and economic demand. Ideally, cases and services should be sufficient for instructional goals and objectives as well as to support in-house laboratories

2) Loss of essential personnel. Many factors have contributed to suboptimal numbers of personnel currently at the CVTC. In 2013 the number of faculty was decreased to 3 due to resignations and positions left unfilled. It is difficult to hire and retain sufficient numbers of qualified individuals to meet current demands of the program. Positions have been restructured and funding sources modified to the extent possible. There is also very limited means to recognize, reward, and retain individuals with outstanding performance.

3) Diagnostic Veterinary Pathology. This position has been vacant since the retirement of the second of our two veterinary pathologists in 2005. The Pathology specialty is in high demand in veterinary medicine and by clientele of the CVTC. We are outsourcing some diagnostic services, but are unable to incorporate this extremely important specialty in the veterinary teaching program at this time. Diagnostic Veterinary Pathology has been a core service for the producers and veterinarians of Idaho and the surrounding region. The study of disease (pathology) will always be an indispensable discipline for livestock production, veterinary medicine, homeland bio-security, international marketing, and regulatory activities. The importance was reinforced by wording in the 2014 Farm Bill [ex. [National Animal Health Laboratory Network \(NAHLN\)](#), [Animal Health and Disease Research/1433 Formula Funds](#), and [Agriculture and Food Research Initiative \(AFRI\)](#)]; and, by other forecasts (Dennis F. Lawler, DVM; *Veterinary Over-Supply: Moving Forward*. 2014 AVMA Annual Convention, presentation #16162, 07/28/2014

4) Agriculture beyond animal health. Agriculture is the most important contributor to the economy of Idaho. Dairy and beef production are the two largest commodities (farm gate receipts) in Idaho. Other agricultural products and by-products (e.g., alfalfa, cereal grains, beet pulp, and potato by-products) serve as cash crops for some producers and are utilized in dairy and beef production. Idaho is a major provider of food for man and animals (“Economic Contribution of Idaho Agribusiness 2014, UI Extension Bulletin 892, published December 2014”), Respective influences in those markets require that the CALS, AVS, and the CVTC remain astute to strategically help producers and veterinarians of the future. That requires trained personnel, foresight, resources, and engagement. In January 2015, there was an announcement that a beef packing facility will be constructed near Kuna, Idaho to be functional in Fall of 2016. Significant contributions to agribusiness in Idaho include employment opportunities and retention of current expenses related to hauling animals out of state. Educational opportunities also exist for the Idaho Veterinary Medical Education Program.