

Prospective Students

college of veterinary medicine



AUBURN
UNIVERSITY



New Veterinary Teaching Hospital Coming 2014

message from
THE ASSOCIATE DEAN



Donna Angarano, D.V.M.
Associate Dean
Academic Affairs

What an exciting time to join the veterinary medical profession. World Veterinary Year, celebrated in 2011, marks the 250th anniversary of the founding of the first “modern” veterinary school in Lyon, France. One of the reasons in establishing the school was to help control rinderpest, a devastating disease that plagued cattle. It took 250 years, but in June 2011, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations announced rinderpest eradicated.

The fall of the Roman Empire, the French Revolution, and extensive famines in Africa - all have associations with rinderpest. With a fatality rate of about 90%, cattle that contracted the disease died within days. Problems related to rinderpest included not only the loss of cattle for meat or dairy purposes, but the loss of cattle, buffalo, and yaks as beasts of burden.

A career as a veterinarian allows you to make a change in the lives of animals and people. Whether it’s diagnosing and treating a skin problem in a family dog, diagnosing an infectious disease in a herd of goats, ensuring food and water safety for members of the uniformed service, or researching ways to treat cancer - veterinarians make a difference.

At Auburn we want you to reach your full potential. A cutting-edge large animal hospital, a new educational wing, and a new small animal hospital (opening in 2014) make Auburn an ideal place for you to begin.

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S

Career Opportunities	4
Admission Requirements	5
Pre-Vet Requirements	6
Getting Started	8
Professional Curriculum	10
Residency Requirements	11
Estimated Cost	12
Financial Assistance	13
Accreditation	13
Open House	15
Visiting the College	15

professional career O P P O R T U N I T I E S

Veterinarians are uniquely educated to deal with diseases affecting both animals and humans. In addition to treating animals, veterinarians play a major role in public health, environmental protection, biomedical research, and in ensuring the safety of the food we consume.

Approximately 80% of the 85,000 veterinarians in the United States are involved in clinical practice, treating individual animals, or animals as part of a herd or flock. Many veterinarians limit their practice to certain species, for example a small animal practitioner, an equine veterinarian, or a veterinarian who only works with food animals. Some veterinarians in mixed animal practice see all species of animals. Veterinarians may also specialize in certain disciplines, for instance surgery, dermatology, or emergency medicine and critical care. Veterinary clinics range from a solo (one doctor) practice to hospitals with many veterinarians and a variety of specialists.

Veterinarians are employed by the government in the military or as veterinary medical officers (VMOs) in the United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service. Others

work as state veterinarians or state public health veterinarians, where they are especially concerned about diseases that may be contagious from animals to humans. Federal and state veterinarians are also responsible for protecting our country from foreign animal diseases like foot-and-mouth disease.

Veterinarians who work in industry may have a background in areas like pathology or toxicology. Companies may employ veterinarians in biomedical research or as technical consultants. At universities, veterinarians teach future generations, do biomedical research, and aid in the dissemination of new knowledge.

A degree in veterinary medicine provides a wide range of employment options. The current shortage of veterinarians is expected to worsen over the next decade which will increase the opportunities in this exciting health profession.

admission T O T H E P R O G R A M

Auburn University established the department of veterinary science and physiology in 1892. Since 1909, the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine has graduated more than 6,250 doctors of veterinary medicine. The college, known for its collegial atmosphere and strong traditions, provides a broad-based education that prepares students to enter a variety of careers in veterinary medicine.

Admission to the program is competitive. The number of applicants varies each year. For the most current statistical data, please visit our website. Approximately 120 students are admitted to the professional program annually. One third are Alabama residents. One third are contract students (38 from Kentucky and 2 from West Virginia) through the Southern Regional Education Board contract and one-third are nonresident/non-contract students. Successful applicants demonstrate superior academic ability, as well as dedication to the profession evidenced by work or volunteer experience with animals.

Kentucky and West Virginia students must provide proof of residency from their college/university or from their state council

on postsecondary education. All applicants must apply through the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS). An electronic application is available at www.aavmc.org.

In addition to completing the required pre-veterinary courses, students should work with one or more veterinarians to learn about career opportunities and responsibilities within the profession. Experience with both large and small animals is suggested.

While work and animal experience are necessary for admission, it is important to remember that academic ability is essential. The Admissions Committee selects students they believe can be successful in a rigorous four-year professional curriculum, and in the profession.

Applications are due by October 1
for fall admission the following year.

Pre-veterinary coursework must be
completed by June 15 of the year of matriculation.

pre-veterinary REQUIREMENTS

Alabama, Kentucky, and West Virginia applicants must have a minimum overall GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. Nonresident/non-contract applicants must have a 3.0. Students are also required to take the General Aptitude portion of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Additionally, there is a mandatory interview with the College Admissions and Standards Committee.

The final grade for each required course must be a "C" or better. Students completing their pre-veterinary work at Auburn University must complete the requirements for the Auburn University core. Courses will not be waived on the basis of degrees or "practical experience." Pass-fail or satisfactory-unsatisfactory grades are not acceptable in required courses. Contact your pre-veterinary advisor with questions.

Requirements for areas I-IV will be waived for students with a bachelor's degree. Following are the specific pre-veterinary course requirements for admission to the program. Please note details of the professional curriculum on the following page.

PRE-VETERINARY REQUIREMENTS		SEMESTER HOURS
I. Written Composition		6
II. Humanities & Fine Arts		12
*	Literature (3)	
	Fine Arts (3)	
	Humanities/Fine Arts Electives (6)	
III. History & Social /Behavioral Sciences		12
*	History (3)	
	Social & Behavioral Science Electives (9)	
IV. Mathematics		3
	Pre-calculus / Trigonometry or Higher (3)	
V. Biological & Physical Sciences		42
	Principals of Biology w/lab (8)	
	Fundamentals of Chemistry w/lab (8)	
**	Organic Chemistry w/lab (6)	
**	Physics (8)	
	Biochemistry (3)	
***	Animal Nutrition (3)	
**	Science Electives (6)+	
TOTAL		75

* A six-hour sequence is required in either literature or history.

** Must have been taken within six calendar years.

*** Animal nutrition may be taken as an online course.

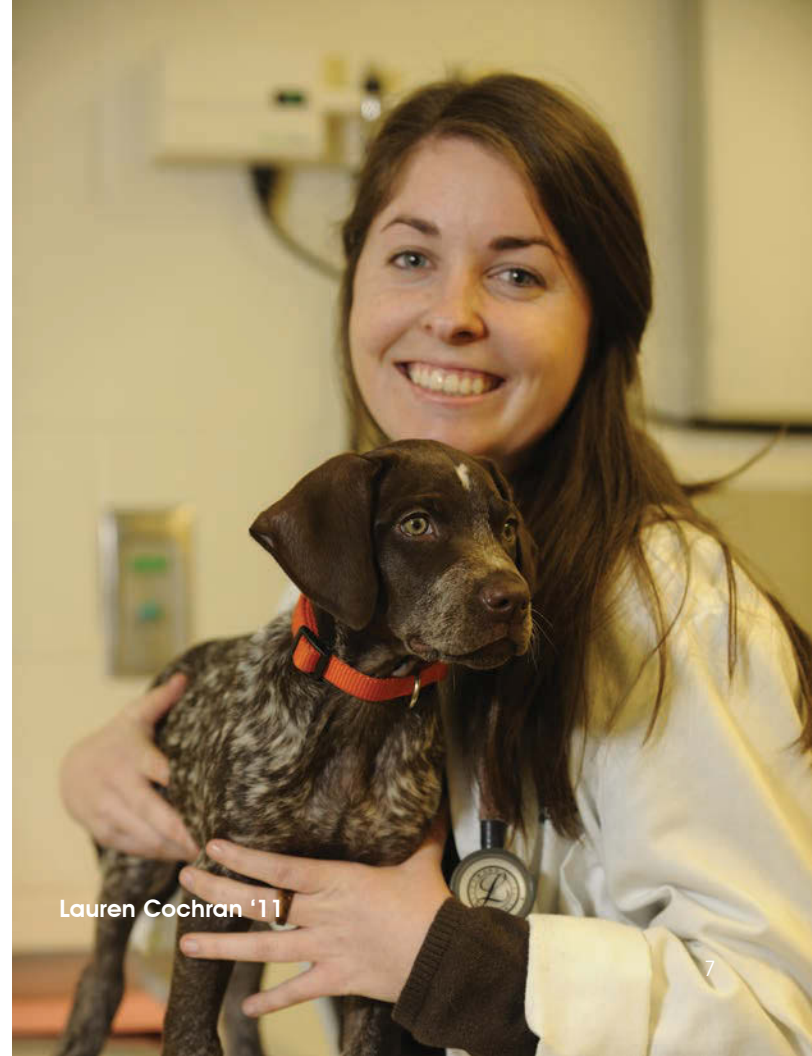
Humanities include literature, philosophy, religious studies, speech, and foreign languages.

Fine arts include art, music, theater, and dance with an emphasis on history and appreciation rather than performance.

Social/behavioral sciences include history, anthropology, economics, geography, political science, psychology, and sociology.

+ Science electives must include at least two of the following: comparative anatomy, genetics, embryology, mammalian or animal physiology, microbiology, cell biology, histology, reproductive physiology, parasitology, or immunology.

Course requirements may change. You are encouraged to check the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine website regularly.



Lauren Cochran '11

GOALS AND TIMELINE

pre-veterinary

High School

- Get good grades
- Get college information for undergraduate study
- Take science courses (biology, chemistry, physics)
- Do volunteer work related to animals
- Shadow a veterinarian
- Gain animal experience (large and small animal if possible)
- Read interesting books about veterinary medicine
- Visit the colleges where you plan to apply
- Think about a major
- Get pre-vet information
- Take SAT or ACT exam

College: Freshman Year

- Meet with pre-vet / pre-health professions advisor
- Learn pre-vet requirements
- Think about a major (career options)
- Plan a tentative schedule (3-4 yrs)
- Develop study skills
- Maintain an excellent GPA
- Begin extracurricular activities

- Participate in pre-vet club (pre-health professions club)
- Work/volunteer in veterinary medicine and keep track of hours for use in completing your application
- Talk to pre-vet upperclassmen to get a reality check
- Consider what you will do this summer

College: Sophomore Year

- Work / volunteer in veterinary medical area
- Meet with pre-vet / pre-health professions advisor
- Decide on a major
- Fine-tune your college schedule
- Maintain an excellent GPA
- Check veterinary medical schools' entry requirements
- Consider participating in research
- Consider what you will do this summer
- Study for the GRE
- Apply for the GRE (if you plan to apply after 3 years)
- Plan for any special junior year programs (i.e., junior year abroad)

College: Junior Year

- Complete VMCAS application by October 1 (if applying after 3 years)
- Request reference letters
- Request / obtain / send transcripts

- Complete VMCAS and supplemental applications
- Study / apply for / take the GRE
- Meet with pre-vet / pre-health professional advisor
- Gather information about veterinary schools
- Maintain the best GPA you can
- Begin preparing VMCAS personal statement
- Work / volunteer in veterinary medical area
- Visit nearby schools in which you are interested
- Consider what you will do this summer

College: Senior Year

- Complete VMCAS application by October 1
- Complete supplemental application(s)
- Request / obtain / send transcripts
- Select references / request letters
 - Provide information
 - Write thank you notes
- Check your e-mail frequently
(colleges may contact you if anything is missing)
- Work / volunteer in veterinary medical area
- Take additional upper level biological science courses—
do well
- Interview in the spring
- Accept offer by April 15!



Allison Stewart
Associate Professor
Equine Internal Medicine

Jordan Towns '12
Morris Animal
Foundation Veterinary
Student Scholar

professional CURRICULUM

The professional curriculum is a rigorous four-year program which provides a broad-based education. The curriculum is designed as a modified systems approach. The first year primarily consists of structure and function of the normal animal. This includes gross and microscopic anatomy, imaging, and physiology.

During the first semester of the second year, several principles courses are taught, such as immunology, infectious diseases, and pathology. Also during the second year, students begin studying disease processes by system. Each system includes appropriate pathology, imaging, diagnostic techniques, and therapeutic measures for both large and small animal diseases.

Each semester includes a small group (problem solving) course related to topics currently being taught. All students are required to take at least one elective course a semester (beginning with second semester). Examples include disaster medicine, wildlife diseases, advanced reproductive techniques, diagnostic ultrasound, aquarium fish medicine, sports medicine and rehabilitation, equine lameness, and practical physical therapy. During the last year of the curriculum, students participate in

a series of required clinical rotations where they interact with patients and clients in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

In addition to core clinical rotations, students may elect to take rotations such as ultrasound, dermatology, ambulatory, neurology, equine theriogenology, and practice management. Students may also participate in externships at a variety of locations. Some students go to practices specializing in specific species such as swine, cats, birds, or exotic animals. Others use the opportunity to learn more about certain disciplines such as dentistry or cardiology. Still others learn about nontraditional veterinary careers at locations such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, pharmaceutical research facilities, or the San Diego Zoo. A few students gain international experience during their externships.

The final portion of the veterinary curriculum is a required preceptorship. Most students spend this period with a veterinarian in clinical practice. During this time students gain supervised, hands-on experience with day-to-day veterinary medical activities.

CORE CLINICAL ROTATIONS INCLUDE:

Internal Medicine

Oncology

General Surgery

Orthopedic Surgery

Community Practice

Critical Care/Emergency Medicine

Radiology

Equine Medicine

Equine Surgery

Equine Critical Care

Dairy

Beef

Food Animal Theriogenology

Diagnostic Pathology

Anesthesiology

residency REQUIREMENTS

For the purpose of assessing tuition and fees, applicants shall be classified as Alabama or non-Alabama students. (Contract students are treated as Alabama students.) Non-Alabama, non-contract students are required to pay nonresident tuition.

No person who moves to Alabama for the primary purpose of attending college shall be considered to have demonstrated intent to establish domicile in the state of Alabama, and will generally not be considered eligible for classification as a resident student. For additional information or to ask specific questions, contact the Office of the Registrar at (334) 844-4367, option 3.

requirements

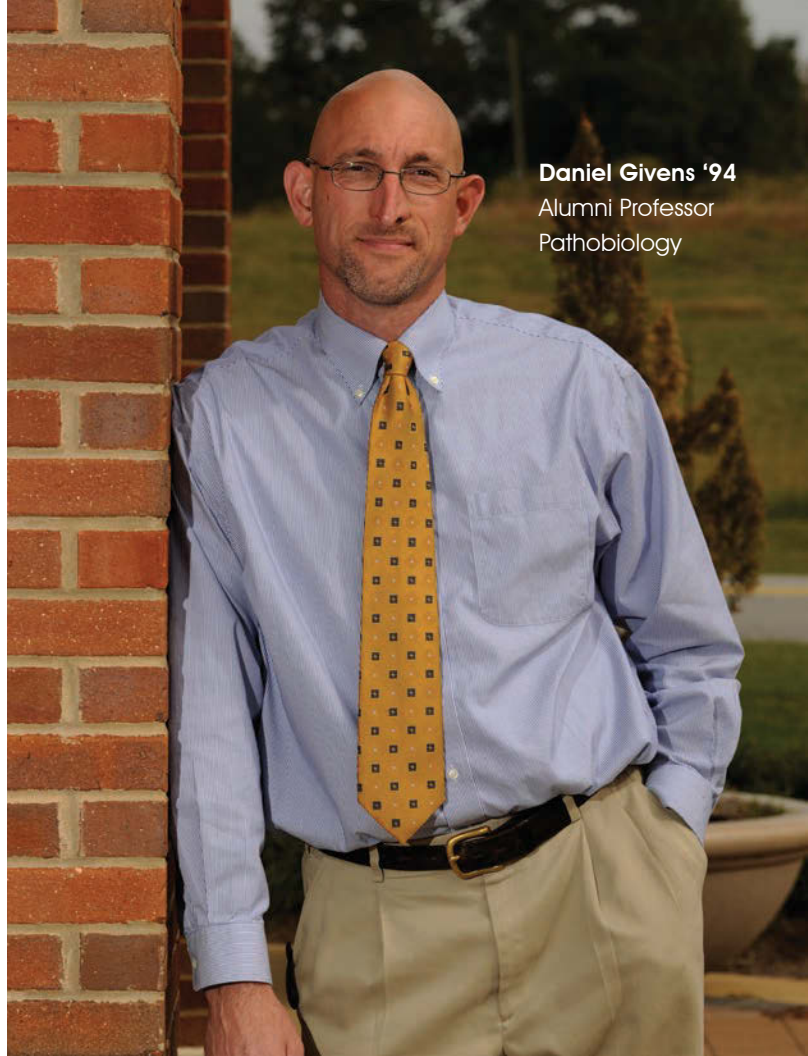
estimated cost
 OF ATTENDANCE

The estimated cost of attendance for a nine-month academic year is outlined below. Course fees are based on 20 semester hours per term. Although modest, these budgets are seen as adequate for the typical student. However, your general spending habits will determine your actual expenses.

Expense	ALA/KY/WV Resident	Nonresident
Tuition & Fees	\$16,692	\$39,272
Avg. Loan Fees	\$90	\$90
Books, Supplies & Ins.	\$3,329	\$3,329
Room & Board	\$9,992	\$9,992
Personal Expenses	\$2,562	\$2,562
Transportation	\$2,604	\$2,604
Total	\$35,269	\$57,849

First-year students are required to purchase a tablet notebook computer through the College of Veterinary Medicine and cost is approximately \$2,100.

Prices are based on the 2010/2011 academic year.



Daniel Givens '94
 Alumni Professor
 Pathobiology

financial assistance
A N D S C H O L A R S H I P S

Scholarship opportunities are made available annually to veterinary students through the Office of Academic Affairs.

The Office of Student Financial Services at Auburn University provides assistance to students who need financial aid in order to attend the university. The amount of aid granted is based on financial need and cost of attendance as determined by the university. To determine need, Auburn University uses the FAFSA, Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Students seeking assistance are required to complete the FAFSA. Aid programs available to professional students are limited to student loans with varying interest rates: Health Professions, and the William D. Ford Direct, unsubsidized loans and the new PLUS loan for graduate and professional students.

Application materials and brochures can be obtained from:

Student Financial Services
203 Martin Hall
Auburn, AL 36849
(334) 844-4367
online at www.fafsa.edu.gov

accreditation
A N D N A V L E E X A M

The Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine is fully accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education. In addition, graduates exceed the expectation of at least an 80% pass rate on the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination.

Pass rates on the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) for the last 4 years are:

Class of 2011 - 98%
Class of 2010 - 98%
Class of 2009 - 95%
Class of 2008 - 99 %

accreditation
financial assistance



visiting
THE COLLEGE

Prospective students and their families are welcome to visit Auburn University's College of Veterinary Medicine. Tours are led by veterinary students and can be arranged by calling (334) 844-2685. Tours are conducted by appointment and must be scheduled in advance.

open house
AT THE COLLEGE

The college "Open House" is held annually in April. Activities include exhibits, lectures, tours of the college, and the opportunity to interact with veterinary students and faculty. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please visit our website for details.

get more
INFORMATION

For more information about the College of Veterinary Medicine at Auburn University, visit vetmed.auburn.edu, phone (334)844-2685, or e-mail admiss@vetmed.auburn.edu.



Julie Gard '96
Associate Professor
Food Animal

Misty Edmondson '01
Assistant Professor
Food Animal



Office of Academic Affairs
College of Veterinary Medicine
217 Goodwin / Overton
Auburn, AL 36849-5536
vetmed.auburn.edu

Auburn University is an equal opportunity educational institution/employer.