



**Veterinary Science
Program Advisory Committee Meeting**

Date: Thursday October 18, 2018

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School - Main Cafeteria
565 Maple Street, Hathorne (Danvers), MA 01937-0362

Agenda:

- **6:00 p.m. Welcome**
- **6:10 p.m. Rosalin Acosta - Secretary, Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development**
- **6:30 p.m. Breakout to Program Specific Meetings**
 - Review Shop/Laboratory Facilities and Equipment
 - Annual Programmatic Review
 - Data Review
 - National Program Standards
 - Review Course of Study
 - Student Enrollment/Placement
 - New Trends in the Occupational Area
 - Employment Outlook
 - New Business
 - Recommendations

Attendance: Jason Psalidas, Hope Humphries, Jim Humphries, Julia Lobel, Renae Leavitt

Teachers: Rebecca Smith, Michael Grace, Leandra Pellegrino

Minutes:

1. Facilities and Equipment: Cardell BP monitor, most accurate, can run approx \$2500, Doppler method or oscillometric, helpful to know how to check both methods, one is manual and one using the BP monitor, Parks Medical makes doppler (most accurate) only get systolic with doppler, if under anesthesia want to measure systolic, diastolic and means, portable will give heart rate and BP, doppler only gives systolic, technician come in and teach skills, have company come in
Urine analyzer (IDEXX and Abaxys, Idexx better) for sediment - looks for bacteria and crystals, compare with student results, more accurate to run urines in-house, same technology as CBC
2. Filled out form in vet tech lab
3. Data Review: Co-op numbers up from last year, internships frowned upon by school? Businesses want to make sure students gain experience but not willing to hire, lack of understanding of business, need to make sure students are able to work safely before having them handle, restrain, work with needles. Go through training and signed off on (takes about 6 months). So much liability involved. We are encouraging students to get jobs early on and then do co-op jr/senior year, have to prove yourself at a business, can't just walk in and make a seamless transition between school and work. A lot of unknowns with animals. Across the board need to encourage students to start looking for jobs freshman/sophomore year, sports can interfere
4. National Program Standards - N/A
5. Review Course of Study - no changes currently, have talked about moving some Practical Vet Sci curriculum into sophomore year and move Health and Nutrition into junior year
6. Student Enrollment/Placement - will know freshman numbers in January, most of the seniors went to college. 13/23 seniors from last year went into animal science, 7 went into other college majors (pre-med, bio, nursing).
7. New Trends in the Occupational Area - implementing teamwork, need more practice working with others and working as a team, being able to delegate and communicate with team members, push from NAVTA to change title to Veterinary Nurses, states use different terms "licensed, certified, registered etc." some states have less requirements. Looking to make cert process the same across the country, change to new name to make it easier, on the ballot in 3 states already, IN, OH and Mich. Change name to "Registered Veterinary Nurse." CVTs expected to be grandfathered in, the window for people who need to take the test. Bring more attention to vet techs, liability issues? Still, work under vet license or hold own liability? Will make it easier for vet techs to go between states. Could increase wages. Promotional video, Purdue already changed program names.
8. Employment Outlook - Everyone is hiring, Bulger is having a job fair, opening a new building in March, highest growing industry, CVTs and Assistants
9. New Business - contact of Julia's, potential substitute? Julia knows a vet (Alex at Middlesex Animal Animal Hospital) that might be interested in being on advisory board, new vet at Andover might be interested too
10. Recommendations - kids interested in tech aspect, Julia has a friend that works in lab equipment repair, a panel of people with different backgrounds

Adjourn 8:00 pm