DVM Class of 2019 Orientation  
Monday August 17, 2015 – Saturday August 22, 2015

Monday August 17, 2015  
Veterinary Teaching Hospital  
1 - 3 p.m.  UAF Students Check in at VTH  
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.  Welcome DVM Class of 2019

Tuesday August 18, 2015  
Pathology 101  
7:15 a.m. - 4 p.m.  General Orientation to Veterinary School

Wednesday-Thursday August 19-20, 2015  
RAM OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (ROLE)  
Colorado State University Mountain Campus  

Wednesday August 19, 2015  
6:30 a.m. - Depart for the Mountain Campus  

Thursday August 20, 2015  
7:30 p.m. - Home

Friday August 21, 2015  
Pathology 101  
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  Getting Started- The First Week of Classes  
UAF students meet with key faculty  
Hilton Hotel  
Oath and Passages Coating Ceremony  
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.  Family and Friends are encouraged to attend  
425 W. Prospect  Please join us at the Reception following the ceremony

Saturday August 22, 2015  
Veterinary Teaching Hospital  
DVM Orientation Photo Schedule  

Vet-Text: Book Pick Up  
Important: Please come to Vet Text and room A221 at the VTH during the book sale on Saturday August 22 to receive pre-ordered books, instruments and supplies. DVM notes are available for pick up from CSU Annex (check hours).
Prior to the beginning of classes, the Colorado State University DVM program begins with a week of orientation activities both on campus and at the Colorado State Universities Mountain Campus, a 1,600 acre campus nestled in a beautiful, secluded mountain valley at an elevation of 9,000 ft. in the Rocky Mountains. During orientation week students will be introduced to each other, administrators, faculty, staff, student mentors and the DVM program including curriculum, honor code and roles and responsibilities. Many of the activities will be interactive and will be aligned with the goals of engagement, team work, leadership, communication and professionalism.

The individuals who make up the DVM class of 2019 have worked hard to get here. You are a dedicated and driven group of individuals who strive to the best. Though we want you to continue to work hard and strive for excellence, we also want you to begin to see those around you, your peers, as colleagues, not competitors. You are here because you have a common goal, to become competent veterinarians. The veterinary profession is a small tight knit community of individuals working to better the lives of animals and humans through clinical practice, research, laboratory medicine, legislative initiatives and humanitarian efforts. It is important you begin this journey together with a common understanding of these goals. We encourage you to give some thoughts as to what type of class you would like to be. This, more than most anything, will shape your experience in the four years you have together here. In addition to your classmates, 2nd and 3rd year students will be involved in offering and facilitating portions of this orientation week. We encourage you to learn from them, get to know them and connect with them as mentors.

The Ram Outdoor Leadership Experience (ROLE) is an interactive orientation designed to aid the development of professional skills in the DVM Program in a relaxed environment, breath-taking in its scenic beauty. Activities have been designed to provide each student an opportunity to develop and enhance their professional skills, such as communication and team work. This time is also a great opportunity to get to know classmates, and DVM faculty and staff.
We are fortunate to have the opportunity to offer the experience of both low and high ropes courses. Students will participate in the low ropes elements on day one and the high ropes elements no day two.

All activities are participation by choice. We hope that all of our students will feel confident and safe to participate. The orientation facilitators respect the fact that the final decision of whether to participate in a particular activity is up to the individual student. Students are expected to attend all sessions, even if they decide not to participate.

**Goals of ROLE Orientation**

- **Engagement:** Students will be asked to consider their engagement in three areas:
  - Engagement with fellow classmates, now colleagues, with upper-class student mentors, with the Student Services Support Team, with key faculty and staff and with various groups and organizations students will be involved with during the course of the next four years.
  - Engagement as a student in the DVM program. We will highlight the importance of personal engagement with the DVM curriculum, policies and procedures, and the role and responsibility one takes on as a student in the DVM program.
  - Engagement in personal and professional health and well-being. We will help student to identify behaviors that contribute to wellbeing and become familiar with resources available to assist in personal and professional health and wellness.
  - Engagement with the community and the surrounding area. Introduce students to the CSU campus, the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and the CSU Mountain Campus.

- **Team Work:** students will participate in a number of team building activities where they will begin to identify ways they personally interact with others, and how they deal with problem solving and conflict resolution in a group setting.

- **Communication:** in large and small group settings, through practice and sharing, students will be introduced to new ways of communicating and listening which will enhance their personal and professional relationships and inform their efficacy as learners, clinicians and colleagues.

- **Leadership:** Students will discover and begin to better understand their personal leadership style and how it impacts interactions and relationships. This information will be useful in identifying particular strengths and challenges and finding effective ways to work with others.

- **Professionalism:** Students will be introduced to the CVMBS definition of professionalism and how it applies to their personal and professional success as a DVM student and a future veterinarian. We will explore the concept of professionalism as it relates to veterinary medical practice as well as to each individual.
ROLE will be held at CSU’s Mountain Campus, in the mountains west of Fort Collins. The Mountain Campus is located at about 9,000 feet above sea-level. *It is essential that each person drink plenty of water throughout the orientation to avoid dehydration and altitude sickness.*

We highly recommend that you bring the following items:

- Water Bottle
- Sunglasses
- Flashlight
- Sun screen
- Bug repellant
- Sweatshirt and long pants for evening (it can get quite cool [i.e., the 30’s] in the evenings)
- Closed toe shoes
- Raincoat
- Hat
- Toiletries.
- Pen and Paper

You will be issued one towel and wash cloth for your stay. Sheets and blankets will be provided for the beds. You might consider bringing a pillow.

Cell phone and internet access is not available at the Mountain Campus. Therefore, please leave your cell phones and laptop computers at home. There are no areas to secure belongings, so please leave your valuables at home. There are pay phones, so bring quarters if you need to make some phone calls.

*Please be advised that this is an alcohol free event.*
The CSU Mountain Campus Challenge Ropes Course is designed to enhance team building and personal growth. Increased confidence (self-efficacy) is a common outcome of the ropes course experience, along with increasing communication skills and effective strategies to improve teamwork. Risk taking, group problem solving, and leadership skills also are common focal points.

Ropes course activities progress from low elements and group initiatives to the high elements. The low elements emphasize teamwork and the need for cooperation and effective communication. The high elements provide individuals with an opportunity to get outside their comfort zones, enhancing personal growth.

We practice the "challenge by choice" principle, which means not everybody has to participate in all the activities. Success is determined by your willingness to try new experiences. All challenge course facilitators have interpersonal and technical skills necessary to ensure your group’s safety.

For more information on CSU’s Mountain Campus you can visit their web site:  
http://www.mountaincampus.colostate.edu/

We are looking forward to seeing you in August! Feel free to address any questions to Laurie Fonken  
laurie.fonken@colostate.edu