

DAIRY VETERINARY NEWSLETTER

July 2022

Utah State University Officially Announces New Four Year Veterinary College

Utah State University has officially approved and announced the establishment of the College of Veterinary Medicine, an expanded four year degree DVM program. Most if not all of our readers have likely heard rumors of this for well over a year. Nevertheless, the university could not officially confirm the news until state government, legislative approval of funding, several “state higher education governing groups”, the board of trustees, and the president of USU all signed off on the development of the new college, steps now completed.

As described in Utah State Today, July 21, 2022, “USU will continue its current collaboration in a regional DVM program with Washington State University during the transition to a four-year DVM degree at USU.” That story by L. Harris also says, “Leading the new college as interim dean is [Dr.] Dirk Vanderwall, who has served as head of USU’s Department of Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences and associate dean for the School of Veterinary Medicine since USU became part of the Washington-Idaho-Montana-Utah (WIMU) Regional Program in Veterinary Medicine 10 years ago. ‘USU is fortunate to have a veterinarian, educator, scientist, and administrator of Dr. Vanderwall's caliber to lead the complex and substantial efforts to develop this demanding professional degree program,’ said USU President Noelle E. Cockett.”

Some things currently known about the new College of Veterinary Medicine:

- Annual funding is stated as \$18 million “in addition to other funding streams”.
- The first four-year students are “*likely to be admitted*” fall semester of 2025.
- The veterinary college “*will likely admit 80 students*” that first year [2025]. The students would graduate in 2029.
- The long-term plan as of now is indeed to have a veterinary class size of 80 students per year.
- USU faculty member, veterinary diagnostician, and current president of the Utah Veterinary Medical Association Dr. Jane Kelly has conveyed that, “UVMA members are excited about legislators having funded the new school and look forward to seeing how it develops because it will have an important impact on veterinary medicine in the state. - - The new school will be an important asset for veterinarians throughout the state, many of whom are overwhelmed by the numbers of patients and clients they work so hard to serve.”
- CVM Dean Vanderwall states, “the new College of Veterinary Medicine’s faculty and staff are currently working toward two primary objectives:” (see the next two bullet points on the following page)

- Obtaining accreditation through the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education.
- Design and construction of a new Veterinary Medical Education Building.
- The State of Utah's Building Board has recently announced the selection of the project architect for the new building, VCBO Architecture. Their company website, including photos of their many large projects is: <https://www.vcbo.com>. Among their completed projects are USU's Life Sciences Building, Westminster College's Meldrum Science Center, and the restoration of Utah's State Capitol.
- The Veterinary Medical Education Building will be located on the Innovation Campus near the Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and the USDA Poisonous Plants Research Laboratory. This will be on the north side of 1400 N in Logan, Utah, across the road from the UVDL and PPRL.
- We are interested to receive feedback from veterinarians regarding any aspect of establishing the new CVM. Dr. Vanderwall encourages feedback if anyone would like to contact him directly at: dirk.vanderwall@usu.edu

Some of VCBO Architecture's recent project photos:



USU Life Sciences Building (completed; please check it out at your next campus visit if you have not yet done so)



Edwards Lifesciences Fitness Center



Westminster College Meldrum Science Center

5600 Old Main Hill
Logan UT 84322-5600

The establishment of the new CVM is an exciting undertaking for us all, not least for food animal veterinarians. I would also be glad to hear your feedback or any thoughts on this process as we go forward.

Utah State School of Veterinary Medicine 10th Anniversary Celebration, August 19 - 20, 2022

Utah State University is celebrating the 10th anniversary of the School of Veterinary Medicine, dating from when our first class of veterinary students began their freshman year in 2012.

There will be a celebration on August 19 and 20, 2022. Registration and information can be found at <https://vetmed.usu.edu/svm10> (At this writing, many people have registered; we hope to see all of you there)

The growth and success of the USU SVM program would of course never have been possible without the many veterinarians who have helped who did not attend our relatively new program, or did not graduate from Washington State University. We invite all veterinarians and their family members, staff or clients and industry partners who would like to attend the celebration.

If you know of other CE events or conferences of interest to dairy veterinarians, please let me know and I will publicize them.

Please let us know your comments and suggestions for future topics. I can be reached at (435) 760-3731 (Cell), or David.Wilson@usu.edu.

David Wilson, DVM, Extension Veterinarian

"Utah State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution."