



October 16, 2019

VIA ARMATURE

Dr. Julie Funk, Dean
University of Arizona
College of Veterinary Medicine
1580 E Hanley Blvd
Oro Valley, AZ 85737

Dear Dr. Funk:

During its September 22-24, 2019 meeting, the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education conducted a review of the proposed University of Arizona College of Veterinary Medicine. This review consisted of the College's self-study, the report from the site visit team, the College's response to the site team's report, and additional information provided in response to questions submitted to the Dean on September 19, 2019. Based on this review the Council voted to grant the College a letter of reasonable assurance based upon the plan submitted to establish a college of veterinary medicine. As defined in the COE Policies and Procedures Manual May 2017, revised September 2017, section 10.1:

Reasonable Assurance is the classification granted to a US or Canadian institution seeking initial accreditation. Reasonable Assurance is not a preaccreditation action by the Council and does not confer accreditation of any kind on a developing college. A letter may be granted to an educational institution indicating that there is reasonable assurance of future accreditation of a developing college of veterinary medicine in the US or Canada, if such a college is established according to detailed plans presented to the Council, and if these plans demonstrate intent and a realistic plan to comply with the Standards of Accreditation. Reasonable Assurance may lead to Provisional Accreditation. Reasonable Assurance may be renewed annually by the Council for a maximum of three years based on progress documented in writing twice a year (July and January). If a developing institution granted Reasonable Assurance fails to continue to demonstrate that its plan to develop its program will comply with the Standards, or if the program significantly changes its plan without notifying the Council, the Council may withdraw the classification of Reasonable Assurance.

In addition, section 6.2 of the manual states:

A college granted Reasonable Assurance must offer admission to and matriculate its first class of students within three years. A college that delays offering admission to and matriculating its first class beyond three years must submit a new formal letter of application to the AVMA COE.

The Council determined that the College's plan, if followed, has the potential to meet the standards for accreditation. Modifications from the original plan submitted, including, but not limited to, increasing enrollment, cannot be made without the Council's approval, or until the college has achieved accredited status and outcomes from the first graduating class one year after graduation have been analyzed and reported to the Council. Should substantive changes occur in the plan, the Council must be notified in writing and the College must receive approval prior to implementation to remain in compliance with the letter of reasonable assurance. The Council must approve substantive changes to ensure that the standards will not be compromised.

A liaison committee composed of COE members will be appointed to work with the College as it executes its plan.

The process of obtaining a letter of reasonable assurance is intended to ensure that a college will provide a quality education for its students.

The Council will conduct a focused site visit prior to matriculation of the inaugural class on campus. The purpose of the focused site visit is to review facilities, including but not limited to all facilities visited by the comprehensive site team, and the V Bar V Ranch. Cattle and personnel must be on-site and activities on-going at the V Bar V Ranch at the time of the focused site visit. The College must notify the office of the date students will matriculate in order to schedule the time of the visit.

Based on progress made toward achieving your plan, as related in your January and July reports, and if a first class is admitted into the program by the fall of 2020, the College's next comprehensive site visit may occur in fall 2021.

In addition, the Council requests that the following additional reporting be included in your next biannual report due January 15, 2020.

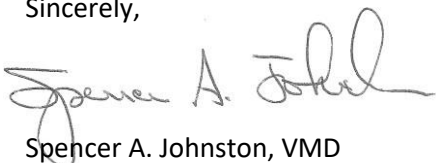
Additional Reporting

1. The College must report on how it is working with the clinical affiliates at distributive sites to ensure the affiliates understand and support the goals for the rotations at their facilities, along with each affiliate's role in designing their respective rotation.
2. The College must report on how it is working with the clinical affiliates to ensure students can contribute to medical records.
3. The College must provide a detailed report on how students, especially early in their education, are being exposed to research, including how students who are interested in participating in research are being given that opportunity.
4. The College must report on how students are being exposed to research opportunities prior to their elective rotations in the third year.
5. The College must update the Council on the development of the College's own research program.

The Council urges you to review the Report of Evaluation for suggestions for improving the program. A copy of the Report of Evaluation accompanies this letter. A copy of the report has also been sent to the University of Arizona president, Dr. Robert Robbins.

If you have any questions regarding this action of the Council, please contact Dr. Karen Martens Brandt, Director of the AVMA Education and Research Division at 1-800-248-2862, ext. 6674 or e-mail kbrandt@avma.org.

Sincerely,



Spencer A. Johnston, VMD

Diplomate, American College of Veterinary
Surgeons Chair, Council on Education

SJ/db

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