

ROTATING INTERNSHIP IN ZOOLOGICAL MEDICINE & SURGERY

**Louisiana State University
School of Veterinary Medicine
Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences
Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Audubon Institute,
and BREC's Baton Rouge Zoo**

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**ROTATING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
IN
ZOOLOGICAL MEDICINE & SURGERY**

**Louisiana State University
School of Veterinary Medicine
Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences
Veterinary Teaching Hospital**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Internship is designed to provide an intensive one-year experience in management of zoological medicine clinical cases under faculty supervision. The training program will utilize faculty of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences (VCS) and other participating departments. Clinical facilities of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH) will be the primary training location. The program will utilize the professional expertise of the staff veterinarian and support staff at the Audubon Institute and Greater Baton Rouge Zoo in conjunction with rotations through those facilities.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 To provide the opportunity to experience advanced training in diagnostic and therapeutic techniques in zoological medicine and surgery as well as the opportunity for experiences in anesthesiology, dermatology, ophthalmology, and companion animal medicine and surgery.
- 2.2 To provide experience in teaching fourth year veterinary students.
- 2.3 To prepare the intern for residency and/or graduate study or entry into a high quality companion animal, mixed animal or zoological animal practice.

3.0 PREREQUISITES

- 3.1 Candidates must have a DVM or an equivalent degree.
- 3.2 Candidates should have successfully completed the National Board examination or its equivalent and a State Board examination or its equivalent.

4.0 FACULTY MENTOR

4.1 The Internship Program Director will assign intern a mentor. This mentor will monitor the intern's progress through the program and also the intern's progress of case and seminar presentations to ensure timely and acceptable preparation. The mentor may suggest the intern seek other guidance from faculty more closely associated with the cases or topics.

Manuscripts submitted for publication will be reviewed, revised and coauthored by a SVM faculty member(s).

5.0 CLINICAL PROGRAM

5.1 Introduction: The goal of the program is to provide the intern advanced clinical training in zoological medicine. In addition the opportunity exists for experiences in anesthesiology, dermatology, ophthalmology, and companion animal medicine and surgery. The intern will also gain experience teaching fourth year veterinary students in a clinical setting.

5.2 Clinical Training: The intern's program will follow the Phase II professional curriculum which is arranged in 12 blocks (4-6 weeks each). Each intern will rotate through 8-9 blocks in Zoological Medicine (LSU-SVM), 1 block at the Audubon Zoo, and 2 blocks at BREC's Baton Rouge Zoo. There is also an opportunity for one elective block in the LSU-SVM Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

5.3 Emergency Duty: The Veterinary Teaching Hospital operates year round. The Intern will participate in the emergency duty as assigned. Emergency duty will be shared with the Zoological Medicine resident. The rotation will commit the intern to a share of evening, weekend and holiday duty on a scheduled basis. The intern will be available at all times during the assigned period. The Zoological Medicine intern will have no small animal emergency duty responsibilities. Only the Zoological Medicine intern and resident will see zoological medicine emergency cases with appropriate orientation and backup support from specialist in this field. He/she will be considered the clinician of record until such time as the case is officially transferred to one of the receiving services.

5.4 Zoological Medicine

5.4.1 The intern will be involved in the diagnosis, treatment and care of medical and surgical cases in each of the various subspecialty areas under faculty supervision. Cases will be assigned to the intern from both the general and referral practices at the discretion of the faculty member.

5.4.2 The intern will participate in the tutorial instruction of Phase II students

5.4.3 The intern will participate in daily student rounds, clinician ward rounds, special topic conferences, clinical pathology rounds, radiology rounds, and other scheduled conferences of the Small Animal Section. Other seminars in the SVM will be attended as scheduling permits.

5.5 Anesthesiology

5.5.1 Under faculty supervision the intern will be involved in the evaluation, premedication, maintenance and recovery of anesthetic cases. The cases will be distributed based on the discretion of the faculty. There will be an emphasis on zoological medicine patients.

5.5.2 The intern will participate in anesthetic procedures that take place at facilities away from the veterinary school, (e.g. BREC's Baton Rouge Zoo), as the faculty member deems necessary and as it relates to the intern's focus of interest.

5.5.3 The intern will participate in daily student rounds, special topic conferences, and other scheduled conferences of the Small Animal Section. Other seminars in the SVM will be attended as scheduling permits.

5.6 Companion Animal Surgery Elective

5.6.1 The intern will be involved in the diagnosis, treatment and care of surgical cases under faculty supervision. Time will be divided equally between the soft tissue and orthopedic/neurosurgery services.

5.6.2 The intern will participate in daily student rounds, clinician ward rounds, Phase II surgery labs, special topic conferences, radiology rounds, and other scheduled conferences of the Small Animal Section. Other seminars in the SVM will be attended as scheduling permits.

5.7 Dermatology Elective

5.7.1 The intern will be involved in the diagnosis, treatment and care of dermatology cases under faculty supervision.

5.7.2 The intern will participate in daily student rounds, clinician ward rounds, special topic conferences, radiology rounds, and other scheduled conferences of the Small Animal Section. Other seminars in the SVM will be attended as scheduling permits.

5.8 Ophthalmology Elective

5.8.1 The intern will be involved in the diagnosis, treatment and care of ophthalmology cases under faculty supervision.

5.8.2 The intern will participate in daily student rounds, clinician ward rounds, special topic conferences, radiology rounds, and other scheduled conferences of the Small Animal Section. Other seminars in the SVM will be attended as scheduling permits.

6.0 HOUSE OFFICER ROUNDS AND SEMINAR PROGRAM

- 6.1** The House Officer Rounds are designed to provide the intern an opportunity to receive and present interesting, unusual, or difficult clinical case material utilizing a problem oriented approach to professional colleagues. The intern will participate with other VCS house officers on a rotating basis and will make at least 1 case presentation in House Officer Rounds during the year.
- 6.2** The House Officer Seminar series is designed to provide the intern with the opportunity to research and present scientific material to professional colleagues. One seminar will be presented during the year. It is encouraged that the resident strives to choose topics and produce a manuscript for publication based on the seminar topic.
- 6.3** A SVM faculty member will be selected by the intern to mentor both case presentations and seminar preparation. Any manuscript submitted for publication will be reviewed, revised, and coauthored by a SVM faculty member(s).
- 6.4** Attendance: The intern is required to attend and participate in the following: VMED 7001: VCS Seminar, Grand Rounds, House Officer Rounds, and other seminars which are requirements of the intern's home section.

6.4.1 VCS HO Rounds/Seminar Policy

- 6.4.1.1** HO attendance at all HO Rounds/Seminar sessions is required. HO attendance is required at only those rounds and seminars designated as VCS HO Round/Seminar sessions and that others occurring in the same time slot would not be required by the HOC.
- 6.4.1.2** Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each session.
- 6.4.1.3** HO will be required to present an additional seminar if they have more than one unexcused absence during the program year or come late to the seminar more than twice (unexcused).
- 6.4.1.4** All absences must be accounted for by completing a HO Leave Request Form and submitting it to the HOC chair.
- 6.4.1.5** Excused absences include the following: illness, annual leave, attendance or participation in a continuing education program, presentation of a student lecture, scheduled out-rotation or special service requirements

per request of advisor. All other absences are unexcused unless deemed excusable by the HO advisor.

7.0 TEACHING PROGRAM

- 7.1** Throughout the program, interns will be viewed as role models by professional students. The interns will participate in clinical instruction and in the evaluation of Phase II veterinary students assigned to BZEM, CAS, and Zoological Medicine rotations.
- 7.2** The interns will be involved in teaching Year III students in surgery and clinical labs.

8.0 HOUSE OFFICER COMMITTEE

- 8.1** The Committee is comprised of a representative of each House Officer program. It is responsible for the year-end review of each house officer's progress. This review is based on block evaluations received throughout the course of the program. The Committee grants a certificate to those who successfully complete the program.
- 8.2** All House Officers are required to complete an annual evaluation of their program with suggestions for improvement before continuation or completion of their program is granted.

9.0 EMPLOYMENT AND BENEFITS

- 9.1** Louisiana State University classifies interns and residents as University employees. As such, they (and their eligible dependents) qualify for the Louisiana State University Baton Rouge health insurance and benefits. The School of Veterinary Medicine provides malpractice insurance coverage. The salary (not a stipend) is published in the Directory of Internships and Residencies as published by the American Association of Veterinary Clinicians (www.virmp.org). Salary is payable in monthly increments via direct deposit. Retirement contributions are required and withheld from each paycheck. No social security tax is withheld. Federal and state income tax is withheld. The employee may be eligible to petition the IRS for exemption from federal tax on part of his/her salary.
- 9.2** The Veterinary Teaching Hospital operates year round. House officers will share emergency duty with other house officers within their specialty. House Officers will also share evening, weekend and holiday duty on a scheduled basis.
- 9.3** The University offers accrual of annual time off following either the University accrual rate (14 hours/month with a maximum accumulation of 176 hours) or the Civil Service Schedule rate (8 hours/month with no maximum accumulation). Sick time off accrual is 8 hours/month. All time off, except for illness and emergencies, should be requested and

approved 30 days in advance. Time off requests must be entered into Workday (via the employee's MyLSU account) by the employee and approved by the supervisor before time off will be granted. Annual time off will be granted on an individual basis taking into account the reason for the requested absence and the needs of the service and hospital. Annual time off for personal business is to be taken during elective or research blocks. Emergency absence such as for illness or a death in the immediate family should be brought to the attention of the clinician to whom the House Officer is assigned as soon as the House Officer learns that he/she will be absent. The official request should be entered into Workday upon the House Officer's return. Except in unusual circumstances, approval will not be granted for time off during the final month of the program.

10.0 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

- 10.1** House Officers receive a Block Performance Evaluation at the end of each rotation to document his/her performance during the program. Every two weeks the house officer will assign a faculty member to evaluate them for the previous rotation using E*Value software.
- 10.2** The Intern is to meet with his/her Advisor at the beginning of each block to report accomplishments and plans.
- 10.3** The House Officer Committee reviews block evaluations and has the capability to recommend continuation, probation or termination of the house officer's program at any time based on these evaluations.
- 10.4** The House Officer Committee meets in May of each year to determine if the house officer has successfully completed his/her program. This determination will be based on all evaluations received for the house officer.
- 10.5** All House Officers are required to complete an annual evaluation of their program with suggestions for improvement before continuation or completion of their program is granted.

11.0 POST INTERNSHIP STUDY

- 11.1** If the intern is considering a residency or graduate program following completion of the internship, he/she are encouraged to consult relevant faculty to maximize preparation for that program.

12.0 APPLICATION

- 12.1** Candidates may apply for the Zoological Medicine and Surgery Internship by submitting:
 - 1)** A standard application through www.VIRMP.org
 - 2)** A statement of Internship objectives and career goals

- 3) Official academic transcripts
- 4) A minimum of three letters of reference from individuals currently familiar with the applicant's professional status

13.0 APPENDICES

13.1 VCS HOUSE OFFICER ROUNDS EVALUATION FORM

House Officer: _____ Date: _____

Evaluator: _____

	Evaluation E=Excellent G=Good N=Needs Improvement	<u>Comments</u>
Case Selection		
Complexity of case		
Appropriate follow-up		
Content		
Format of presentation		
Discussion		
Conclusions		
Use of problem-oriented approach		
Delivery		
Clarity of speech		
Rate of delivery		
Effectiveness of Visual Presentation		
Use of visual aids		
Body language and enthusiasm		
Questions handled appropriately		

Additional Comments: _____

13.2 VCS SEMINAR EVALUATION FORM

Presenter: _____ Date: _____

Audience: _____

Title/Topic: _____

Evaluation Criteria:

	Points	Evaluation
Definition of subject: introduction, importance, clinical significance	0-5	
Organization	0-10	
Quality of material	0-10	
Presence: speaking ability		
Clarity	0-10	
Rate of delivery	0-10	
Enthusiasm, expressiveness	0-10	
Support Materials		
Handouts, manuscript	0-15	
Visual aids	0-5	
Appropriate Summary	0-5	
Presentation consistent with audience level	0-10	
Questions/discussion handled appropriately	0-10	
	Total	

Comments:

Evaluator: _____

13.4 House Officer Block Evaluation Form (through E*Value)

<u>House Officer Evaluation Form in E-Value</u>	Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent	Not Applicable
Professional Ability					
Theoretical Knowledge					
Knowledge Application					
Skills					
Patient Care					
Thoroughness					
Individual Characteristics					
Communication with clinicians					
Communication with students					
Communication with staff					
Independent study & initiative					
Awareness of current literature					
Contribution to student education					
Performance under stress					
Ability to accept criticism					
Organizational skills					
Ability to work in a team					
Reliability					
Motivation					
Attendance at seminars & rounds					
Presentation at seminars & rounds					
Ability to make independent decisions					
Hospital Service					
Completion of duties					
Quality of work					
Emergency services duty					
Communication with veterinarians					
Client communication					
Referral letters & record keeping					
Acceptance of service & case responsibility					
Adherence to VTH protocol					
Strengths:					
Areas for Improvement:					

13.5 ZOOLOGICAL MEDICINE AND SURGERY ROTATION PROTOCOL

- 13.5.1** The intern will be directly responsible to the faculty member with whom he/she is rotating on the medical service.
- 13.5.2** The intern shall be clinician of record of all cases which he/she receives and will assume the responsibilities of attending clinician. Interns are encouraged to consult with a senior clinician whenever questions arise. In this way the intern will be afforded optimal responsibility while on medicine service. If an intern fails to properly exercise this responsibility, clinician of record privileges will cease.
- 13.5.3** Medical patients will be referred to the medical service headed by a faculty member at the VTH. Referral cases may be subsequently assigned to the intern, however, the senior faculty clinician will remain clinician of record to insure continuity in management of referral cases.
- 13.5.4** A "Conflict of interest" is present in most University internship programs when it comes to the surgical exposure of seniors, residents, and interns. This problem will be minimized by rotation of the intern and case selection. The resident and intern will be given preference for surgery cases considered to be of special interest and value. However, "routine" surgical procedures will also be assigned because of their practical value.
- 13.5.5** The intern will be responsible for assisting the faculty with block evaluations of those Year IV students with whom he/she rotates.
- 13.5.6** An intern evaluation form (see appendix H) will be filled out by the faculty member to whom the intern has been assigned at the end of each rotation. A copy of the evaluation will be given to the intern, the intern's faculty advisor, the VCS department secretary, and the house officer committee.

13.6 ANESTHESIOLOGY ROTATION PROTOCOL

- 13.6.1** The intern assigned to the anesthesiology service will be directly responsible to and under the supervision of the duty anesthesiologist.
- 13.6.2** The intern will actively participate in anesthesiology rounds, case discussions and autotutorial material intrinsic to the anesthesiology service. Attendance at these events is mandatory.
- 13.6.3** The intern will be assigned primary case responsibility on a rotating basis with students. Where competition for cases is at issue, students will be given highest priority with the intern assuming a supervisory role. The intern will maintain familiarity with all cases on the anesthesia service at any given time.
- 13.6.4** Interns assigned to the anesthesiology service will participate in emergency duty with the duty anesthesiologist.

- 13.6.5** The intern will be required to select a current journal article for review and discussion with anesthesia group.
- 13.6.6** An intern evaluation form (see appendix H) will be filled out by the faculty member to whom the intern has been assigned at the end of the rotation. A copy of the evaluation will be given to the intern, the intern's faculty advisor, the VCS departmental secretary, and the house officer committee.

13.7 COMPANION ANIMAL SURGERY ROTATION PROTOCOL

- 13.7.1** Interns rotate on a 4/5 week basis in either soft tissue or orthopedic/neurosurgery and be assigned to individual surgeons or groups.
- 13.7.2** The intern will be kept under direct observation and will be given increasing responsibility on selected surgical cases as assessed by the surgeon in charge. Responsibility will vary with the intern's skills, surgical skills required for a given case, and professional protocol governing case responsibility.
- 13.7.3** Cases will not be assigned to interns as clinicians of records.
- 13.7.4** A "Conflict of interest" is present in most University internship programs when it comes to the surgical exposure of seniors, residents, and interns. This problem will be minimized by rotation of the intern and case selection. The resident and intern will be given preference for surgery cases considered to be of special interest and value. However, "routine" surgical procedures will also be assigned because of their practical value.
- 13.7.5** Interns may not accept referral cases from outside veterinarians or from the medicine faculty. Cases accepted on emergency duty will be re-assigned to a faculty member at the earliest convenient time.
- 13.7.6** The intern will assist with surgery laboratories while assigned to the surgery services.
- 13.7.7** An intern evaluation form will be filled out by the faculty member(s) to whom the intern has been assigned at the end of the rotation. A copy of the evaluation will be given to the intern, the intern's faculty advisor, the VCS department secretary, and the house officer committee.

13.8 DERMATOLOGY ROTATION PROTOCOL

- 13.8.1** The intern will be directly responsible to the dermatology faculty member/resident on service.
- 13.8.2** The intern will be given case responsibility commensurate with their knowledge base and experience.
- 13.8.3** The intern will assist students with in-patient care, will attend morning and evening rounds, and will assist with daily receiving.

- 13.8.4** The intern will attend Friday afternoon journal club and basic science review. Attendance at dermatohistopathology rounds will be optional.
- 13.8.5** An intern evaluation form (see appendix H) will be filled out by the faculty member to whom the intern has been assigned at the end of the rotation. A copy of the evaluation will be given to the intern, the intern's faculty advisor, the VCS departmental secretary, and the house officer committee.

13.9 OPTHALMOLOGY ROTATION PROTOCOL

- 13.9.1** The intern assigned to the ophthalmology service will be directly responsible to and under the supervision of the duty ophthalmologist.
- 13.9.2** The intern will actively participate in and be responsible for ophthalmology rounds, case discussions and autotutorial material intrinsic to the ophthalmology service. Attendance at these events is mandatory.
- 13.9.3** The intern will not be clinician of record on cases admitted to the ophthalmology service.
- 13.9.4** The intern will participate in clinical consultation cases of the service including cases in the small and large animal clinics of the VTH and the zoological medicine service.
- 13.9.5** The intern will be assigned cases on a rotating basis with students. Where competition for cases is at issue, students will be given highest priority. The intern will maintain familiarity with **all** cases on the ophthalmology service at any given time.
- 13.9.6** Attendance during surgery is mandatory for the intern assigned to the ophthalmology service.
- 13.9.7** Communication between referring veterinarians and interns may take place only under direction of the duty ophthalmologist.
- 13.9.8** The intern is expected to observe during the ophthalmology surgery laboratory held each rotation.
- 13.9.9** Interns assigned to the ophthalmology service will participate on emergency duty with the duty ophthalmologist.
- 13.9.10** An intern evaluation form (see appendix H) will be filled out by the faculty member to whom the intern has been assigned at the end of the rotation. A copy of the evaluation will be given to the intern, the intern's faculty advisor, the VCS departmental secretary, and the house officer committee.