Student Representative Reports

UC Davis Student Report
by Shirley Chen

It’s hard to believe the first term of this school year is already over. Everyone has settled into the routine of the academic year, and underclassmen have enjoyed a long, well-deserved holiday break.

Fourth-year students are seriously considering life after veterinary school. In addition to handling grueling clinic schedules, they have applied for internships and residencies and studied for and taken board exams. Third-year students are following closely behind, having submitted applications for fourth-year externships and performed their first surgeries at the VMTH.

The first- and second-year students continue moving through systems of the body with the new curriculum, having most recently studied the musculoskeletal system (first years) or skin (second years). They are grateful to have their education bolstered by rotations through the VMTH every other month.

The dedication of Davis veterinary students does not end, however, with academics. A plethora of student clubs support myriad interests, including: mentoring veterinary school applicants from under-represented demographics, providing spay/neuter services to rescue agencies and low-income clients, connecting students with on- and off-campus mentors, and supplementing academic exposure with wet labs, lunch talks, and symposia presented by “real-world” practitioners. Our clubs’ spring symposia include:

- Equine Medicine Symposium: March 9
- Veterinary Business Management Association Symposium: April 6
- Canine Medicine Club: April 13-14
- Holistic Veterinary Medicine Symposium: April 27
- Emergency and Critical Care Symposium: May 11-12

Finally, our second annual Career Night will be held February 22. We are happy to have both the CVMA and VISC among the sponsors. DVM and PhD students will meet veterinary practices and organizations offering externships, internships, or job openings. They will also be introduced to health care vendors and their products. If you are interested in participating, please contact us at CareerNightUCD@gmail.com.

Western U Student Report
by Shelley Taylor, MS

Fourth-year students are excited to have finished taking NAVLE qualifying exams. One-third of the class is applying for internships through the Veterinary Internship and Residency Matching Program. Meanwhile, they continue completing their four-week rotations; several students are at international sites, including Australia and Africa. Four years of building the memories of a lifetime culminate with the commencement ceremony on May 17, 2013.

Third-year students are busy gaining experience in the various aspects of veterinary medicine during their two-week rotations, which expose them to the many disciplines of veterinary medicine, including lab animal medicine, anatomical/clinical pathology, livestock medicine and zoo medicine. Many third-year students are volunteering with organizations like World Vets and the Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association to gain additional surgical experience. The Christian Veterinary Mission sent three students to the Grand Canyon to aid in providing needed veterinary care for the community. Three of our students represented WesternU at the 12th annual Intercollegiate Animal Welfare Judging/Assessment Contest in Guelph, Canada. Other students are attending continuing education forums and conferences to gain additional exposure to the countless disciplines of veterinary medicine.

The second-year students are active in fundraising via the various clubs on campus. The SAVMA executive board has been busy raising funds to send students to this year’s SAVMA conference at LSU. ZWEACC is busy organizing the fifth annual Zoo, Wildlife, Exotic, Aquatic, Conservation Club conference, held at WesternU. Meanwhile, the students are rotating through on-campus clinics and will perform two surgeries (spay/neuter) by the end of the year. With the combined student efforts of both first and second years, WesternU CVM will host the sixth annual Open House in April. During breaks from study sessions, first and second-year students are busy planning their summers, which will be filled with conferences, summer research projects and other volunteer opportunities.