Frequently Asked Questions

FAQ #1

**How are students able to gain hands-on experience at the Pullman campus?**

Hands-on experience begins on day one with caseloads that provide extensive experience in all areas of interest including small animal, agricultural animal, equine, and exotics. Because the clinicians have a wide range of specialty areas, the Veterinary Teaching Hospital sees a large and diverse caseload. We have more than 50 board-certified specialists in cardiology, neurology, pathology, microbiology, toxicology, clinical pharmacology, clinical pathology, oncology, radiology, theriogenology, laboratory animal medicine, and companion animal/equine/bovine medicine and surgery. Students are encouraged (and required) to spend time in the hospital throughout all four years of study.

Our program also offers students numerous other opportunities for hands-on experience throughout all four years. One of the very first courses our first year students take is “Principles of Surgery,” which equips our students to be more involved in observing and assisting with surgeries, as well as teaching basic surgical techniques. The Clinical Simulation Center is an open lab that uses both cadavers and simulation models to allow students to practice their surgical techniques from day one. Moreover, we have a wide variety of elective courses available for students, and many very active veterinary student clubs that organize field trips and wet labs.
**FAQ #2**

**What is it like living in Pullman?**

With a true four-season climate, beautiful rivers, nearby mountains, and scenic mountain lakes, it’s easy to take advantage of a variety of excellent recreational activities including hiking, mountain biking, skiing, snowboarding, fishing, camping, and whitewater rafting. WSU is also a member of the PAC-12 athletic conference, offering exciting sporting events throughout the year. Pullman and neighboring Moscow, Idaho enjoy the cultural richness of two major universities (University of Idaho is just a few miles away) including multiple entertainment and arts opportunities.

**FAQ #3**

**What are the financial benefits of attending the Pullman campus?**

Residents of the state of Washington have the potential to save tens of thousands of dollars by attending their in-state school versus attending other schools as nonresidents. Idaho residents also attend the Pullman campus, paying in-state tuition all four years. The Pullman campus offers incredible financial savings for nonresidents as well, as nonresidents have the opportunity to obtain Washington residency and pay in-state tuition for years two through four. The cost of living in Pullman and the surrounding areas can also be much lower compared to other schools in the western United States. Furthermore, over 90% of our students receive some type of scholarship assistance from the College of Veterinary Medicine during their four years in our program.

**Facilities**

The Veterinary Teaching Hospital provides full service care and offers a wide range of specialty services in oncology, cardiology, orthopedic and soft tissue surgery, internal medicine, theriogenology, dentistry, and neurology. Each year, the hospital treats thousands of patients including companion animals, horses, livestock, and exotics.

The Animal Disease Biotechnology Facility houses the Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Pathology, Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, Field Disease Investigative Unit, and U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Research Service - Animal Disease Research Unit.

Bustad Hall, named for dean emeritus Leo K. Bustad, is the central building in the college complex. It houses the college administration, student services, student lounge with a coffee cart and deli bar, lecture and lab facilities, and the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (WADDL). A founding member of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network, WADDL provides state-of-the-art diagnostic services, consultation, disease surveillance, and outreach to safeguard animal health, the food supply, and public health.

Wegner Hall is home to labs, lecture rooms, and the Animal Health Library. Established in 1963, the library primarily serves the research and teaching needs of the college. The Animal Health Library provides information on biomedical topics and other resources for practicing veterinarians, pharmacists, physicians, and clinical pharmacologists.

McCoy Hall, the original teaching hospital, houses student labs, offices, the Robert P. Worthman Veterinary Anatomy Museum, Clinical Simulation Center, and the SCVMA bookstore.

Paul G. Allen Center for Global Animal Health is a 62,000-square-foot, three-story flagship research building that houses a state-of-the-art infectious disease research center for investigating emerging diseases throughout the world. There are two floors of Biosafety Level 2 (BSL-2) research laboratory space, and a 5,000-square-foot BSL-3 laboratory. The facility uses state-of-the-art energy management and sustainability strategies.

The Biotechnology-Life Sciences Building houses the School for Molecular Biosciences, which offers programs in biochemistry, genetics and cell biology, and microbiology. The School of Molecular Biosciences provides exciting opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to explore a wide range of future career paths in the life sciences.

The Veterinary Biomedical Research Building houses Integrative Physiology and Neuroscience, whose faculty are responsible for teaching anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, toxicology, and neuroscience courses within the professional veterinary education curriculum. Our research and adjunct faculty members are dedicated to educating students in the undergraduate and graduate programs in neuroscience. The new building adjoins the Biotechnology-Life Sciences Building, creating one of the best concentrations of biomedical laboratory facilities on the WSU campus.
“I found home at the WSU College of Veterinary Medicine. From start to finish I have been surrounded by professors and friends that have become family.”

– Mary Linker (’17 DVM) from Washington

“I chose WSU because of the friendly atmosphere that the faculty expresses, their desire to put student education first, and the opportunities they lend to us to gain hands on experience in the hospital from day one.”

– Grant Little (’19 DVM) from Nebraska

“From my fellow classmates to the faculty and staff, there is an overwhelming sense that everyone wants all students in the program to achieve great things.”

– Jon Miller (’20 DVM) from Wyoming

“When I visited WSU’s College of Veterinary Medicine, the atmosphere of community, teamwork and kindness was tangible – I am now in my fourth year, and have not ever regretted my decision.”

– Laura Maillard (’18 DVM) from Arizona
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