



Announcing the:

LSU TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL VETERINARY MEDICINE

Who: Veterinary medical students interested in international veterinary medicine

What: Financial support for clinical and research electives

When: Application deadline February 16, 2004

How: Submit the materials listed below

Background:

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine has established initial funding for a fellowship program, to be administered by the the SVM Office of International Programs and Associate Dean for Student Affairs, that will provide travel expenses for veterinary medical students who arrange research or clinical electives/externships abroad. Fellowships will provide up to \$1000 toward travel and living expenses for up to 5 students in the 2003-2004 school year, including Summer 2003 and Summer 2004. Fellows will be required to prepare an application for support and present reports describing their activities upon completion. This is the second call for applications due February 16, 2004.

The travel fellowships are designed to meet a demonstrated interest by many LSU SVM students in pursuing international summer research or clinical electives. A number of such studies have been completed previously that were funded from a various sources, including the Merck-Merial Animal Health Summer Research Scholars Program, the Geraldine R Dodge Foundation, faculty projects and/or personal funds. Student projects have involved research in China (1999, 2001), Egypt (2001), Uganda (2001), Italy (2002), NW Territories of Canada (2001, 2002) and England. A number of students have completed small ruminant clinical electives funded by Global Health Action in Haiti (15 students over a 3-year period). The International student Association has facilitated many informal practice experiences abroad, particularly in Europe and Australia. As part of the effort to 'internationalize the curriculum', it is believed that early hands-on experience in the international arena is the best way to stimulate students to explore careers in international veterinary medicine and that travel fellowships will be instrumental in helping veterinary medical students obtain these experiences.

Eligibility:

Students in the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine who express an interest in international veterinary medicine may apply. Applicants must arrange a summer research experience or clinical externship with the approval of a supervising faculty mentor and two other faculty members, who will together serve as the advisory committee. An overseas mentor must be identified, and a research plan or plan of clinical study presented. Eligibility is limited to veterinary medical students; post-graduate students are not eligible.

Selection Criteria:

Applicants will be selected based on their academic credentials, recommendations, quality of their proposal and evidence of a sincere interest in pursuing full time or part-time involvement in some aspect of international veterinary medicine as a career goal.

LSU Travel Fellowship Application Instructions:

Deadline for submission: February 16, 2004

Submit the following application materials to the Office of the SVM Associate Dean for Student Affairs:

Curriculum vitae containing education, training, work experience, prior research experience, any publications or abstracts, honors and awards. Be sure to indicate year of veterinary medical school, mailing address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address.

Cover letter of no more than 2 pages including the following information:

- Why you are interested in tropical medicine or international health
- Describe any prior overseas experience
- Describe your short and long-term career objectives

Letters of recommendation, including faculty support to be provided, from:

- The supervising LSU faculty mentor
- The overseas mentor

A proposal of no more than 3 pages, describing:

- Description of overseas site
- Specific objectives of the research study/externship
- For research projects, the objectives, rationale and significance, methods and anticipated problems
- For clinical projects, description of clinical activities and responsibilities
- Provide specific dates for participation in elective or summer studies

Budget page:

- List anticipated costs for travel, including best-price round-trip airfare and living expenses
- Also list funds for supplies, student wages and other costs that may be provided from other sources, for example other organized fellowship programs, existing mentor funds, pharmaceutical firms or funds available to SVM research groups such as the LSU Faculty of Parasitology or the Equine Research Group.
- Preferential consideration will be given to projects in which matching funds of a minimum of ½ of the travel grant (\$500) are committed from other sources.
- No funding will be provided for attendance of organized didactic courses or scientific meetings.

For Further Information:

John B Malone, SVM Office of International Programs, PBS, Rm 3327 578-9692;
e-mail: malone@vetmed.lsu.edu,
Joseph Taboada, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, 578-9537
e-mail: jtaboada@vetmed.lsu.edu

Submit Application Materials by 4:00 PM, February 16, 2004 to:

LSU Travel Fellowship in International Veterinary Medicine,
Joseph Taboada, Associate Dean for Student Affairs
LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, Room 1213C
Skip Bertman Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
Fax. 225 578-9546

Notification of decisions on approved student travel awards will be made by March 16, 2004.