



Memorandum

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Date: March 27, 2007

To: Committee on Human-Animal Bond

From: Council on Education

Cc: Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges

Re: Inclusion of Animal Welfare and the Human-Animal Bond in Veterinary College/School Curricula

During its March 18-20, 2007 meeting, the Council on Education (COE) reviewed the Committee on Human-Animal Bond's recommendation that the COE explore ways to ensure explicit incorporation of bodies of knowledge regarding animal welfare and the human-animal bond as part of compliance with Standard 9, Curriculum for accreditation of colleges of veterinary medicine. The Council appreciates your input in regards to the accreditation process.

As you are aware, the Council does not dictate curriculum. The COE is cognizant of the importance of animal welfare and the human-animal bond in the curriculum and requires the colleges to submit a self-study prior to accreditation site visits. Those self-studies must include an audit of selected curricular content in which the college lists the major courses or clinical rotations in which a number of topics, including human-animal bond and animal welfare are addressed.

The Council has forwarded your recommendation to the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges for their consideration.

DGS/MM