

2026 MU VRSP mentor profile form

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| <b>Mentor</b>   | Pamela Adkins  |
| <b>Departmental bio web page.</b>   |  |
| <b>Other relevant web pages, as applicable.</b><br>E.g., lab group/personal web page, Google Scholar/ORCiD profiles, others | <a href="https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=TiOhAw4AAAAJ&amp;hl=en">https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=TiOhAw4<br/>AAAAJ&amp;hl=en</a>   |
| <b>Research interests.</b>  | Bovine mastitis, molecular epidemiology of bacterial pathogens of food animal origin, Beef cow health  |
| <b>Active projects.</b>   | Characterization of heifer mastitis; understanding impacts of non- <i>aureus</i> staphylococcal species associated intramammary infections in dairy cattle; evaluation of infectious and non-infectious disease prevalence among beef cows in Missouri.  |
| <b>Research team.</b><br>E.g., graduate students, post docs, technicians, other scholars                                    | My lab group is small, it generally includes myself, faculty collaborators, and a few graduate students.   |
| <b>About you...</b><br>Education/training<br>Personal information, as interested—e.g., hobbies, etc.                        | I am a clinician scientist. I am a food animal veterinarian and work in the Food Animal Clinic in the VHC. I completed my DVM at Ohio State and my PhD and residency at Mizzou.<br><br>Outside of work I hang out with my family, garden, bake, preserve foods, and spend time on our little farm. |
| <b>Mentor Profile</b>   |  |
| I am available to mentor students in career and life decisions, even if they do not choose research.                        |  |
| Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True   |  |
| My students are/can be involved in the creation/development of their projects.  |  |
| Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True   |  |
| I expect students to contribute to manuscripts/publications.  |  |
| Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True   |  |
| Students have the option to continue to work on this project.   |  |
| Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True   |  |
| My students often work closely with a research team, e.g., lab tech or other students.                                      |  |
| Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True   |  |
| I frequently touch base with my research team—e.g., students, technicians, etc.   |  |
| Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True   |  |
| My mentoring style is very hands off.   |  |
| Very Untrue 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 Very True   |  |

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| Current/active project profile & timeline, including clinical vs. basic science. | The mastitis projects are ongoing and active. The beef cow health project is newly funded and will start this summer. All projects are clinical or applied science.   |
| Lab structure, if applicable.  | I have a small lab space in the VHC that is used for bacterial culture and sample processing. I also use space in the Comparative Internal Medicine laboratory in the Vet Med building. We also do a lot of work on farm.   |
| What does a typical day of research look like for VRSP scholars?                 | It is variable. I most often allow independence regarding scheduling laboratory work. If we are going to a farm to work, we often preplan and prep for a specific time for the group to go. Most days, lab work will only last part of the day. I expect independent reading, data input, and writing. We have regular lab meetings and journal club. |
| What does engagement look like for your lab/project?                             | I want my students to fully understand their projects and the laboratory techniques they are using. I expect them to independently read and learn background information, ask questions, and provide input on plans, problem solving, and future direction.   |