Expanding Horizons Program
2017 Guidelines

Thanks to the generosity of the Lincoln Ellsworth Foundation and an endowment set up by Dr. Ton Schat, the John F. Whitefield ’65 Memorial fund and contributions from the Alumni Association and other generous donors, we are able to award grants for the summer of 2017 through spring 2018 to allow veterinary students to pursue an experience abroad, in a veterinary context in a developing nation.

**Eligibility:** All veterinary students of the College of Veterinary Medicine, Cornell University. Students must be registered/matriculated in the DVM program at time of the experience.

**Application Deadline:** Noon, Monday, February 20, 2017
Applications should be submitted to Dr. Jai Sweet (jr27@cornell.edu), S2 009 Schurman Hall in hard copy AND electronic format.

**Application Format:**

1. **Applicant Information**- Name & Class year

2. **Project Title**

3. **Project Description**
   a. Project partners, location and period
   b. Background and rationale for the proposal
   c. Project objective (hypothesis)
   d. Methods and training
   e. Feasibility, expected outcome and difficulties (pitfalls)
   f. Professional impact and development (project’s potential for enhancing the applicant’s experience of veterinary medicine in another country.

Scientific as well as experiential programs will be given consideration. Preference will be given to applications where it is clear that the applicant will be well received, will fill a useful role, will undertake a specific project, and will undertake language instruction if required. A letter of invitation and support from the host must be included with the application. In preparation of the proposal, applicants are encouraged to discuss the project with any faculty member, but particularly with members of the International Programs Committee. In addition to traditional field work proposals, consideration will also be given to work with national and international agencies involved in policy making, veterinary public health, the broader aspects of international veterinary medicine, e.g., USAID, FAO, WORLD BANK, WHO etc.
Ideally, Expanding Horizons projects are expected to be in the order of 8-10 weeks during the summer months. Students in their clinical years (third and fourth years) are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to schedule their free blocks such that they may have a 4-6-week block to pursue an externship opportunity through this program.

Joint proposals will not be entertained. In other words, you may not identify a single large project and split the data gathering or other aspects of the experiment amongst yourselves. Please check with Dr. Sweet or another member of the international programs committee if you are considering such travelling to the same location for a project.

(For a list of eligible countries go to http://students.vet.cornell.edu/students/expandinghorizons.html)

4. Proposed budget and budget narrative
Budget and budget justification narrative should include cost of travel, boarding, lodging, equipment and/or materials, immunizations etc. There is a limit of $2000 for airline transportation expenses. Any cost above that amount will have to covered by the student. There is also a limit of $500 for equipment/materials required for the project.

5. Additional Supporting Materials
A letter of invitation and support from the host must be included with the application. Proposals must also include a 1 page-biosketch that addresses career goals and commitment.

Evaluation of Proposals
In deciding which projects to fund, the International Programs committee will use the following guideline for judging the quality of the proposals:

a. Deadline & Length: Proposals will not be scored if submitted after the deadline, or if they exceed a total of 4 pages (using a font size 11 or higher, single spaced, with 0.75 inch margins on all sides), excluding budget, budget justification and letters of invitation/support.

b. Purpose (10 Points): Does the proposal provide a good description of why the study/experience should be undertaken? Does the applicant address how the proposed research/field experience is relevant to clinical practice, animal health, public health, international veterinary medicine or wildlife conservation?

c. Personal & Professional Growth (5 Points): Is the proposed experience likely to provide a substantial intellectual and cultural growth experience? Is there a clear connection between the proposed project and the professional growth of the applicant? How does the experience fit in with the applicant’s career goals?

d. Feasibility (5 points): How feasible is the proposed experience given the applicant’s demonstrated accomplishments, and the time frame?

e. Commitment (5 points): Did the applicant demonstrate commitment in his/her efforts to identify and develop the proposed project? What resources did s/he utilize in identifying the project?

f. Proposal Quality (10 points): Is the proposal thoughtfully reasoned, carefully framed and well written?
g. **Budget (5 points):** Is the budget amount request appropriate for the proposed study? Is a budget narrative explaining and justifying the budget items included?

**Project Approval and Implementation**

Awards will be announced within one month after the application deadline. There may be adjustments to the program goals and/or the budget requested based on comments from the International Programs Committee. Successful students will then work out details for implementing their project through Dr. Jai Sweet in the Office of Student and Academic Services.

**Post-Experience Requirements**

All participants will be required to submit a concise written report promptly after their return and present their finding to the college community as part the VIDA seminar series and poster presentations (date, time and venue to be announced).

Anyone interested in learning more about the program is invited to stop by Dr. Jai Sweet’s office (S2-009) or make an appointment with her ([jr27@cornell.edu](mailto:jr27@cornell.edu) or 607-253-3700).

**International Experiences Committee Members:**

Dr. Julia Felippe  
Dr. Jarra Jagne  
Dr. Paul Maza  
Dr. Hussni Mohammed  
Dr. Daryl Nydam  
Dr. Ton Schat  
Dr. Jai Sweet  
Dr. Alfonso Torres  
Dr. Alexander Travis (Chair)