AQUAVET® Information for 2023

Photo: Melchior de Bruin
AQUAVET®
Background Information

Need for trained veterinary professionals
- Contribute to the health/welfare of aquatic animals and their environment
- Began in the spring of 1977

Historically sponsored by
- University of Pennsylvania
- Cornell University
AQUAVET®
Course Information

Three opportunities

AQUAVET® I
- Introduction to Aquatic Veterinary Medicine
- 4 week course

AQUAVET® II
- Comparative Pathology of Aquatic Animals
- 2 week course

AQUAVET® Summer fellowship
- Usual Location: Fish Diagnostics Lab at Cornell
- Usual Topic: a selected fish viral disease
- Duration: 8 weeks
Roger Williams University - Bristol, RI

- Classrooms and labs
- Library

Tuition covers course work, housing and most meals

Housing – suites with kitchen and 2 bedrooms
- 4 students per suite
- Roommate
- No pets

Meals – cafeteria meal plan
- Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- 5-10 stations
Location
Bristol, R.I.

20 min to Newport
20 min to Providence
Bristol, R.I.

Just 1-1.5 hours to:

➢ Boston
➢ Mystic
➢ Barnstable
COURSES at RWU

AQUAVET® I:
An Introduction to Aquatic Veterinary Medicine

4 weeks: total immersion course
28 May to 24 June 2023
22-24 Students
Approx. 46 invited faculty

AQUAVET® II:
Comparative Pathology of Aquatic Animals

2 weeks: total immersion course
28 May to 10 June 2023
12-18 students
Approx. 15 invited faculty
Marine and Natural Sciences Building
Typical Dorm Room
AQUAVET® I
Introduction to Aquatic Veterinary Medicine

- Four weeks – begins May 28 and ends June 24
- Classes routinely 6 days a week (and most evenings)

- Water Quality
- Invertebrates to marine mammals
- Lectures and laboratory sessions
- Student seminars
- Field trips
AQUAVET® I
Introduction to Aquatic Veterinary Medicine

Invertebrates to marine mammals

- Aquatic invertebrates
- Fish
- Amphibians and Reptiles
- Sea Turtles
- Aquatic Birds
- Marine Mammals
Field trips

- Intertidal Invertebrate Collecting
- Mystic Aquarium
- New England Aquarium
- Atlantis Marine World
- Riverhead Foundation for Marine Research and Preservation
- WHOI (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute)
Tuition for Students - $2,750

Less $200 from anonymous donor = $2,550

Includes

- Tuition
- Room and board (almost all meals) - 4 weeks

Required to attend class

- Foundation covering 2/3 of cost

Credit Available – depending on school

- Evaluation based on
  - Participation in all aspects of the course
  - Especially student seminars
AQUAVET® Cost Comparisons

Tuition - $2,750 - $200 = $2,550

Compare:

AQUAVET® - 4 weeks
- about $635/week - Includes
  - Tuition
  - Room and board (practically all meals)

MarVet - 2 weeks for about $2,000
- About $1,000/week
- Includes only some meals

SeaVet - about $400 for 10 days
- About $300/week
- Includes only some meals
- Does NOT include housing
Scenes from AQUAVET® I
Not All Fun and Games
Classes
routinely 5.5 to 6 days a week
(and most evenings)
Required to Attend Class
8 am to noon
1 pm to 5 pm
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm or later
Student seminars

- 25-30 minute
- PowerPoint
- Topics
  - Invertebrates to marine mammals
  - Marine plants
  - Ecology
- Prepare early
Diving adaptations of sea turtles

Colin McDermott
University of Pennsylvania:
School of Veterinary Medicine
Aquatics I
June 6 2008

Conservation of the Hawaiian Monk Seal
Monachus schauinslandi

The American Paddlefish
Past, Present and Future

http://www.kauaimonkseal.com/Home.html
AQUAVET® II
Comparative Pathology of Aquatic Animals

FOCUS

Pathology and Pathogenesis of diseases
• of important aquatic invertebrates and fish
• biomedical research models
• cultured species
AQUAVET® II
Comparative Pathology of Aquatic Animals

- Prerequisites: AQUAVET® I or equivalent
- Two Weeks – May 28 to June 10, 2023
- Classes 6 days a week and most evenings

- Lectures, slide review, and occasional wet labs
  - Primarily Fish and Invertebrates
  - Comparative Anatomy
  - Parasites
  - Bacterial, Viral and Fungal Diseases
  - Toxicology
  - Histopathology
AQUAVET® II

- **Student Tuition - $1,665**
  - Includes course instruction and room and board

- **Required to Attend Classes**
  - Foundation covering 2/3 of cost

- **Course Credit possible**
  - Depends on school requirements

- **Evaluation**
  - Based on class participation
Scenes from AQUAVET® II
AQUAVET® II - Lots of Microscope Work
Several Wet Labs in AQUAVET® II
Whale Watch

Finback Whale

Humpback Whale
Free Time
AQUAVET® Summer Fellowship

- Research project under guidance of AQUAVET® faculty
- 8 week duration (July and August)
- Aquaculture Based Project (funding requirement)
- Limited positions – usually 1
- Pays stipend of $3,800 after finishing all 8 weeks
- Publication often generated at the end of project
APPLICATION PROCESS

Application forms www.aquavet.org

Download the application form
MS Word and pdf

Please Submit Electronically

APPLICATIONS DUE 15 Jan
APPLICATION PROCESS

What you must submit:

1. The completed application form
2. OFFICIAL Undergraduate transcripts
3. OFFICIAL Veterinary school transcripts
4. Current CV (Curriculum Vitae)

NOTE: “OFFICIAL” means they are sent directly to the director by the university. We cannot accept transcripts sent by the students. Most are done electronically these days.
NOTES:
- If applying for more than one course, need to submit application for each, however, only one set of transcripts
- If applying for a second year (e.g. AQV2 or AQV3), only the updated veterinary school transcript is required (and application)
- Veterinary school transcript must include recent work (fall of the year before application due)
- CV now also required
- Letters of recommendation accepted but NOT required
- Transcripts must be official copies sent directly to the director
  - Transcripts should be sent electronically by the university to the director
  - Paper transcripts are problematic, but IF NECESSARY will be accepted at director’s address
APPLICATION PROCESS

Where to submit:

Should be electronic: aquavetmail@gmail.com

If transcripts must be sent by mail:

Donald W. Stremme, V.M.D.
AQUAVET® Director
Cornell University
College of Veterinary Medicine
Microbiology and Immunology
C5181 Vet Medical Center
Ithaca, NY 14853
APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications due **January 15th**

Application forms - website
  - Via E-mail as PDF file preferred

**Essay** - highlight any aquatic experience
  - Can be separate word document
  - This is most important part of your application

Acceptance to the program
  - Competitive Basis
  - Announced in February
APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process is competitive

What does the admission committee look for?
An indication that you will use the information in the future
What have you done in the past in the aquatic sciences
and/or aquatic animal medicine.....
and/or even other exotic animal work
Formal courses
Other courses
Paid and volunteer work experience
Other: e.g. hobbies (keep aquarium fish)
Membership: IAAAM, WAVMA, AAFV, AAZV, ARAV, etc.

Application form, essay –
Why you think you will benefit from the course.
 Probably the most important part of the application.
Follow the instructions regarding length of your essay.
Proof read it.
Further information

Website  www.aquavet.org

Contact Information

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