Expanding Horizons Program
Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine
Call for Proposals- Summer 2020

Thanks to the generosity of the Lincoln Ellsworth Foundation and endowments set up by Dr. Ton Schat (emeritus professor) and DVM alumni, we are able to award grants that veterinary students to pursue an experience abroad, in a veterinary context, in a developing nation; or participate in a national or international project or experience organized by agencies with programs on socioeconomic environment.

**General guidelines:** Scientific and experiential field programs in developing nations will be given consideration (for a list of eligible countries go to [http://students.vet.cornell.edu/students/expandinghorizons.html](http://students.vet.cornell.edu/students/expandinghorizons.html)). 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, and the broader aspects of international veterinary medicine, e.g., USAID, FAO, WORLD BANK, USDA/APHIS, Winrock International, UNICEF, etc.

Preference will be given to applications where it is clear that the applicant understands and elaborates on background and context of the proposed work, will undertake a specific project or experiential role, will be well received by a local contact, and will seek language instruction if required. During the preparation of the proposal, applicants are encouraged to discuss the project or experience with any faculty member, but particularly with members of the Expanding Horizons Committee.

**Eligibility:** All veterinary students of the College of Veterinary Medicine, Cornell University. Joint proposals will not be entertained, and individual proposals sharing a same site are not encouraged. Please check with Dr. Sweet or another member of the expanding horizons committee if you are considering such a project.

**Duration:** Ideally, projects or experiences are expected to be 8 to 10 weeks of duration in the *summer months*. Students in their clinical year (fourth year) are encouraged to use their free blocks or their CD distribution period to schedule at least 4 to 6 weeks to schedule an experience.

**Application Deadline:** Noon, Friday, February 21, 2020
Applications should be submitted to Dr. Jai Sweet, S2 009 Schurman Hall, (jr27@cornell.edu) and must follow the guidelines.

**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 Expanding Horizons Committee. Successful students will then work out details for implementing their project though 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 of a seminar series and poster presentations (date, time and venue to be announced).
Examples of proposals previously approved by Expanding Horizons International Experience Program are available for your viewing online. Go to http://students.vet.cornell.edu/ then go to the Student Services tab, career services, and click on the Intern/Externship link on the left. Under type of position on the pull down menu click on Expanding Horizons. You can read excerpts of previous experiences as well as the actual proposals and final report. Anyone interested in learning more about the Expanding Horizons Program feel free to stop by Dr. Jai Sweet’s office (S2-009) or make an appointment with her (jr27@cornell.edu or 607-253-3700).

**Expanding Horizons Committee Members:**
Dr. Julia Felippe  
Dr. Karyn Havas  
Dr. Jarra Jagne  
Dr. Paul Maza  
Dr. Hussni Mohammed  
Dr. Daryl Nydam  
Dr. Steve Osofsky  
Dr. Ton Schat  
Dr. Jai Sweet  
Dr. Alexander Travis  
Dr. Caroline Yancey

**Application Format:**

**Layout:** Font 11 or higher, single spaced, 1 inch margins, 4 pages maximum, excluding references, budget, budget justification, and letters of invitation/support.

1. **Name & DVM Class year**
2. **Project Title**
3. **Project partners, location and period**
4. **Purpose**
   Provide the background and rationale for the proposal. Explain the field challenge or the experiential opportunity, its impact on people, animals, environment or community.
5. **Project objective or hypothesis**
   Describe the main objectives of the project or experiential opportunity, along with hypothesis when applicable. Describe why the project or experience should be undertaken.
6. **Methods or strategy**
   Briefly describe the methods or strategy and how they will achieve the objectives of the project or experiential opportunity. Indicate if special experimental tests or training will be necessary.
7. **Does the project require IACUC or IRB approval, or a CITES permit?**
   If the project involves research with vertebrates (e.g. physical exam, blood collections, etc), you will need an approved IACUC protocol. If it involves humans (surveys, physical data, etc), you will need an approved IRB protocol. If it involves endangered wildlife species, you will need a CITES permit. Check with your
faculty advisor or host for approved and valid protocols or permits, and indicate them in the proposal. Contact Dr. Jai Sweet for information on how to obtain such approvals and permits if not valid.

8. **Feasibility, expected outcomes and difficulties (pitfalls)**
   Explain how the methods or strategy will be supported, the expected achievements, and potential difficulties with alternative plans.

9. **Professional impact and development**
   Describe how the project or experiential opportunity will enrich your career path or how it matches with your career goals.

10. **Literature references**

11. **Itemized budget**
    Budget should include flight, other transportation costs, boarding, meals, equipment or supplies, visa, and immunizations.

12. **Budget justification:**
    Explain how the budget will be used.
    IncidentalIs are not allowed. There is a maximum limit of $2,000 for flight expenses, and a limit of $500 for equipment/supplies to be used in the project only. Any costs above those figures will have to be covered by the student or partners. Other types of expenses (fees, permits) should be discussed with Dr. Jai Sweet before submission. Grant awards are capped at $5,500.

13. **Supporting Materials:**
    A letter of invitation from the host must be included with the application.

14. **Curriculum Vitae of applicant**

**Evaluation criteria:**
Proposals will not be scored if submitted after the deadline, or if they do not conform to guidelines.

The Expanding Horizons Committee will use the following guideline for judging the quality of the proposals:

**Itemized score:** Rating scales 1-3 (fair, good, excellent), maximum score 12

a. **Purpose and project objectives (3 Points):** Does the applicant describe and understand the background and context of the project or experiential opportunity? Does the proposal provide a good description of why the project or experience should be undertaken? Does the applicant address how the proposed project or experience is relevant to clinical practice, animal health, public health, international veterinary medicine or wildlife conservation?

b. **Methods, training and overall feasibility (3 points):** How feasible is the project or experiential opportunity given the approach/methods, connection and availability of the host, language knowledge, and the time frame
c. **Professional impact and development (3 Points):** Is the proposed opportunity likely to provide a substantial intellectual and cultural growth experience? Is there a clear connection between the proposed project or experiential opportunity and the professional growth of the applicant? How does the experience fit in with the applicant's career goals?

d. **Commitment and engagement (3 points):** Did the applicant demonstrate commitment and effort when identifying and developing the project or experiential opportunity? How was the student engaged with the whole process, objective, and communicating with the host or faculty?

e. **Budget (no points)** Does the proposed budget conform to guidelines? Is the budget amount requested appropriate for the proposed project or experiential opportunity? Is a budget narrative explaining and justifying the budget items included?