Statement of Intent
VMES competitive research funds support projects that directly impact the health of animals and livestock in the State of Georgia. VMES funds also are used to initiate extramurally funded animal health research programs at the College of Veterinary Medicine. Accordingly, consideration will be given to 1) proposals addressing important disease problems that can be completed within a one-year period, and 2) proposals submitted by new and established researchers that are relevant to the mission of VMES and are likely to result in extramural funding. In addition, requests for maintenance contracts for multi-user equipment may be partially funded by VMES.

Investigators are encouraged to develop long-range plans for their research programs. This approach will enhance their competitive position for extramural funding, promote more effective utilization of College resources for research, and implement solutions to major animal health problems.

Eligibility
Faculty members\(^1\) at the College of Veterinary Medicine are eligible to submit VMES competitive grant proposals if the following eligibility criteria are met:

1. Project support will be restricted to faculty that have had no more than three consecutive years of VMES project support previous to the date of application.
2. The proposed VMES research must be 1) innovative, applicable to animal health, and capable of generating data capable of supporting competitive grant proposals, or 2) solve current health problems that affect animals in the state.

Proposal
Designate on the proposal cover page if the proposed research is targeted for food animal and equine health, or companion animal health. Investigators wishing to submit a proposal not directly oriented to these categories should contact Dr. Dickerson to discuss the justification for consideration of their proposal for funding through the VMES.

Start-up support from VMES for new faculty in their first or second year of appointment is determined through the Office of the Associate Dean for Research, and not through the competitive research funding process.

Note: Submitted proposals that do not follow the instructions provided in the “FY2007 Proposal Application” will be returned to the principal investigator and will not be considered for funding.

Funding

\(^1\)Faculty includes all tenured ranks and the non-tenured faculty ranks of Research Scientist and Public Service Associates. Adjunct and visiting faculty, clinical interns and residents, graduate students, and post-doctoral associates are not eligible to serve as principal investigators.
VMES grants are funded for a period of one year. The maximum amount that can be provided for each state-funded VMES project is $15,000. However, state funds can be supplemented by USDA Formula Funds for projects with a demonstrated application for food animals. Up to $4000 of additional USDA Formula Funds dollars can be used to supplement expenses for personnel, supplies, or equipment AFTER the end of the VMES funded fiscal year, i.e. from July 1 – September 30, which extends the project life from twelve months to fifteen months and the funding up to $19,000. A detailed budget justification must be provided.

Salary support for technicians must include fringe benefits. Fringe benefits are not required for graduate student stipends and part-time student assistants. Funding for personnel per VMES project will be limited to $7,500 or to one-half the total project budget. However, in certain circumstances there may be no personnel funds available. Sharing of personnel costs is encouraged, e.g., VMES and USDA or NIH grants.

Anticipated statistical support costs should be incorporated into the budget.

Release of funds will be contingent upon the PI’s participation in the USDA CRIS reporting system, and the filing of annual reports and a final report to CRIS. This is important to assure future availability of Formula Funds dollars.

Funding Expectations
In FY 2006, 7 of 13 submitted VMES proposals were funded with about $59,000 available from the state VMES budget. In addition, six $7500 non-competitive start-up projects for new faculty were funded. For FY 2007, a comparable level of funding is anticipated.

Service Rates
Use the latest rates provided to your department for the various services, when you are preparing your budget.

Number of Proposals per Researcher
Only one proposal per researcher as principal investigator can be submitted.

Required Number of Copies
One original with signatures and an electronic (PDF or Word) copy should be sent as an email attachment to office of the Associate Dean for Research, i.e. Melissa Farmer, melissam@uga.edu.

Deadline        April 14, 2006

Notification of Action of Review Committee   July 1, 2006

Applications FY06
Proposal Application packets are available through the Office of the Director of the Veterinary Medical Experiment Station or may be obtained from our website (http://www.vet.uga.edu/research/vmes/researchgrantproposal.php).

Revised: January 30, 2006