

Cardiology Residency

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The cardiology residency at the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine is a three-year program. Constructed to meet requirements set by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Specialty of Cardiology, the goal of the program is board certification and diplomate status within the ACVIM. Candidates must have completed a one-year rotating internship or have comparable private practice experience.

The UGA cardiology service includes three board-certified cardiologists (Drs. Amanda Coleman, Amy Dixon-Jimenez, and Gregg Rapoport), two cardiology residents, and two dedicated cardiology technicians. We are located in a new, state-of-the-art, tertiary referral center. Our service is equipped with a Philips iE33 cardiac ultrasound machine, a Philips CX50 portable ultrasound machine, a Philips TC70 electrocardiograph machine, a GE/OEC 9900 fluoroscopy unit, an EMKA hemodynamic monitoring system, and Spacelabs Pathfinder Holter monitoring software for on-site study interpretation.

Diplomates in the specialties of anesthesiology, behavioral medicine, emergency medicine and critical care, internal medicine, neurology, oncology, pathology, surgery, and zoological medicine provide additional direct support for this program. The UGA Veterinary Teaching Hospital has an annual caseload of approximately 27,000 patients. A typical day on the cardiology service includes between four and six outpatient appointments, in addition to in-house consultations for ancillary services. Interventional cases are scheduled and performed as they arise, either on an emergent or non-emergent basis, depending upon the procedure.

Off-clinic time is allocated for research endeavors, collaborative writing of scientific manuscripts, as well as attending and participating in continuing education. Our residents participate in the didactic teaching of pre-clinical veterinary students, and also participate and/or lead in daily clinic rounds, weekly book club, weekly journal club, weekly multi-specialty house officer board preparation rounds, and weekly hospital-wide grand rounds. Residents are expected to present at grand rounds once yearly and at multi-specialty board preparation rounds twice yearly. Residents are also expected to submit one first-author manuscript for publication in a scientific journal prior to completion of this program.

This is a non-degree graduate program, leading to an official University certificate of residency. A one-time graduate school application fee of \$75, as well as tuition and student fees (approximately \$3,000/year), are the responsibility of the resident; some fees are optional, such as those for access to the Ramsey Student Activities Center (sports complex), the Gilbert Student Health Center, and student tickets for athletic and cultural events.

It is worth noting that house officers at the University of Georgia are classified as graduate students, and thus for the purpose of the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program, residents are not considered to be full-time employees. It is the candidate's responsibility to consider this information if he/she plans to participate in this or other loan repayment programs.

Current resident salary is \$30,450 for the first year, \$31,451 for the second year, and \$32,528 for the third year. For each year of training, 10 days of vacation time are provided. The Veterinary Teaching Hospital provides each resident with \$2,000 each year to offset professional dues and expenses associated with travel to a professional meeting.

REQUIREMENTS

Parking fees (currently \$240/year) and health insurance are the financial responsibility of the individual. Proof of medical insurance coverage and proof of immunization for measles, mumps,

rubella, chicken pox, tetanus, hepatitis B, and rabies are required. Medical insurance is available through the Graduate School at a reasonable rate, but may be waived if proof of other coverage is provided. Coverage through the Graduate School will be available beginning August 1, 2017. Please visit the following website for additional information regarding health insurance fees (<http://www.hr.uga.edu/student-health-insurance>).

The successful candidate will be licensed to practice by virtue of a faculty license. This license permits veterinarians from non-AVMA-accredited veterinary schools to practice within UGA graduate programs, and may be obtained without examination. Whereas the regular Georgia state veterinary license requires graduation from an AVMA-accredited veterinary school or successful completion of the ECFVG program, this is not a requirement for the faculty license. A faculty license enables the license holder to practice only in the UGA Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Professional liability insurance is covered only for work performed at the Teaching Hospital; it is the resident's responsibility to acquire professional liability insurance for work performed elsewhere, if necessary.

International applicants are required to provide two official/certified copies of their academic records from each institution of higher education that the applicant has attended. These records must include all course work. Photocopies are not acceptable. Separate proof of degrees is also required. If the original language of the academic record is not English, a certified English translation must be attached to the original. Applicants who graduated from a non-English language veterinary school must submit official TOEFL scores (see <http://www.toefl.org> for details). These scores must not be more than two years old. Foreign applicants that have completed a year of academic study in the US can provide a university transcript in lieu of TOEFL scores.

It is crucial that international candidates consider application processing times well ahead of the program start date. Please note that it may take up to 10 days to obtain a social security number. Information about this process can be found at http://issis.uga.edu/docs/Student_Section/Obtaining_a_Social_Security_Number.pdf. A social security number is required in order to apply for a Georgia veterinary faculty license, and it may take up to 30 additional days to receive this license. More detailed information for international candidates is available through the Office of International Education (<http://international.uga.edu/oie>).

The start date for this residency will be July 15, 2017. Full consideration will be given to candidates who submit a completed application packet by the VIRMP deadline of December 5, 2016. Applications will be reviewed and offers for in-person interviews will be extended during the week of December 12, 2016. Interviews will be scheduled for business days between January 3 and January 20, 2017.

Any questions about this program can be directed to:

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