

Dermatology Residency

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The residency program offered at UGA aims to produce excellent clinicians with an emphasis on research (clinical and/or bench top) with a focus on collegiality and collaboration within the hospital. All three years are spent at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH) of the College of Veterinary Medicine, under the supervision of Drs Fiona Bateman (Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Dermatology) and Frane Banovic (Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Dermatology). The clinical work includes animals presented to the hospital as a primary visit and those referred by veterinarians and other services at the VTH. The current annual hospital and field caseload for Dermatology is approx. 1080 cases. The UGA Teaching Hospital is a new \$100m, state-of-the-art, tertiary referral center and is well equipped with video otoscope, digital radiography, fluoroscopy, ultrasonography, 64 slice CT, nuclear scintigraphy, 3T and 7T MRI; chemotherapy and linear accelerator; flexible and rigid diagnostic and surgical endoscopy; microsurgery, radiosurgery, Nd-YAG, diode and CO2 lasers; qualified pharmacists and large pharmacy; access to other specialists in all major disciplines. In addition, there is a fully accredited clinical pathology lab on site and a state-licensed diagnostic lab on campus.

An original, first author, hypothesis-driven research project is required which must be accepted for publication prior to the completion of the residency. Other research publications, case reports etc. are strongly encouraged. Limited (intramural) funds are available for residency research, but grant submission for extramural grants is encouraged under faculty mentorship. Advancement to the 2nd and subsequent years of the residency is dependent upon satisfactory progress. The major aim of this program is for residents to take the ACVD examinations during the same calendar year of program completion.

In every 12 month period, the resident will spend approximately 10 months on-clinic duty and approximately 2 months off-clinics fulfilling their scholarly requirements for research and publications. In addition to a supervising on-clinic faculty, the resident is aided by one certified technician and 3-4 senior veterinary students on 3-week elective rotations. Specialists from all disciplines are available for consultation and an extensive support infrastructure, typical of a veterinary college, is available. The resident is encouraged to attend and present at a national or international conference every year, as well as attend lectures or seminars in the College of Veterinary Medicine or on the university campus. The resident will be responsible for (1) participating in the daily activities of the dermatology service of the hospital including primary case responsibilities and clinical case rounds; (2) providing assistance in instruction and supervision of veterinary students assigned to the dermatology rotation; (3) providing emergency weekend and night-time back-up for dermatology cases admitted by the small animal emergency interns (50%, shared with faculty) with faculty support; (4) presenting one 45-minute seminar to the College each year and active participation in dermatology journal club and didactic rounds. Clinical case rounds are held at least once daily and a faculty member is always on site.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The current salary stipends (2016-2017) are 1st year - \$30,450.00, 2nd year - \$31,451.00, and 3rd year - \$32,528.00, with annual modest increases in line with inflation. The start date is July 15, 2017.

This is a non-degree graduate program leading to an official University certificate of residency. A one-time application fee of \$75 (\$100 for international students) and tuition and student fees (approximately \$3,000/year) are the responsibility of the individual selected for the program. The fees allow access to the Ramsey Student Activities Center (sports complex) and Gilbert Student Health Center, as well as access to student tickets for athletic and cultural events. Parking fees (up to \$240/year currently) are an additional expense.

Proof of medical insurance coverage and proof of immunization for measles, mumps, rubella, chicken pox, tetanus, hepatitis B, and rabies are required. Health insurance is the responsibility of the

individual. 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>).

Candidates must be fluent in written and spoken English, and foreign applicants whose native language is not English must submit TOEFL scores obtained within the previous 2 years. All applicants must be licensed to practice veterinary medicine in their country of origin, and priority is given to those candidates that fulfill the following:

- 1) Completion of a 1-year small animal rotating is preferred, or practice equivalence. General clinical competency is essential.
- 2) Excellent academic record with previous research experience and veterinary publications. (Submission of a class rank helps in the evaluation of non-US veterinary graduates).
- 3) Previous veterinary experience in the US with a reference from the supervising veterinarian
- 4) Demonstrable collegiality and ability to work as part of a clinical team.

The successful candidate will be licensed to practice by virtue of a faculty license. The faculty license permits veterinarians from non-AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association) accredited vet schools to practice within the graduate programs of UGA and satellite institutions, and may be obtained without examination. 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. A valid US driving license is required.

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>).

Residents at the University of Georgia are classified as graduate students, and thus for the purpose of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program are not considered to be full time employees. Please consider this information if you plan to participate in the Public Service Loan Forgiveness or other loan repayment programs.

All applications must be made through the American Association of Veterinary Clinicians Veterinary Internship and Residency Matching Program, further details available from www.virmp.org. Potential applicants are encouraged to contact and/or visit UGA/GA for further information (www.vet.uga.edu/hospital/services/dermatology). To apply please contact the matching program at www.virmp.org.

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FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS PROGRAM

University of Georgia Contact-

Dr. Fiona Bateman BVSc DACVD, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia, email:
fionabateman@uga.edu, tel: 1-706-206-7926, www.vet.uga.edu/hospital/services/dermatology

Dr. Frane Banovic DVM PhD DECVD, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia, email:
fbanovic@uga.edu, tel: 1-706-202-8276, www.vet.uga.edu/hospital/services/dermatology