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| Date: | 9/16/2021 | | |
| House Officer Type: | Residency | | |
| Service Line: | Internal Medicine | | |
| Number of positions available for 2022: | 2 | | |
| Advertisement placement: | VIRMP | | |
| Additional information for SAMS Admin: |  | | |
| Posting Description: | | | |
| **Full consideration will be given to candidates who submit a completed application packet by the VIRMP deadline of January 10, 2022. Applications will be reviewed and offers for interviews will be extended, hopefully by January 24, 2022. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, only on-line interviews will be conducted.**  **\* Zoom interviews will likely be conducted on January 28, and February 2, 4, 9 and 11.**  **Applicants are encouraged to keep at least one of these dates available. Additional information regarding the interview process will be distributed at the time that interviews are offered.**  Objectives  The objective of the small animal internal medicine residency is to provide graduate veterinarians with advanced clinical education and research experience allowing them to enter either the private or academic sector. A major goal of the program is to prepare veterinarians to become board certified in the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, Specialty of Small Animal Internal Medicine. Candidates must have previously completed a one year rotating internship or its equivalent in practice experience. Currently the program has three options: a 3-year Non­degree option, a 3-year Master's degree option and a 5-year Doctor of Philosophy degree option.  The residency program is approved by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine:  UGA 3 year SAIM residency program description  <https://portal.vetbloom.com/external-view/accreditation/d9e75cbe-324d-4ca4-8081-e1873ad3f900/accredited-program/ee4bca39-0635-40b9-a3af-f20ae8767cd1>  UGA 5 year SAIM residency program description  <https://portal.vetbloom.com/external-view/accreditation/d9e75cbe-324d-4ca4-8081-e1873ad3f900/accredited-program/4949b2f8-1232-4c3e-9931-51092699334e>  Introduction  The University of Georgia’s College of Veterinary Medicine is located in Athens, Georgia. Athens is a community of approximately 100,000 residents located 65 miles northeast of Atlanta. The University of Georgia’s new Veterinary Teaching Hospital is a state­of­the­art facility which can be viewed in this video tour. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zMIR0Ayz6ys&feature=youtu.be>  The residency program director oversees the programs of all the small animal internal medicine residents. An internal medicine faculty member will be assigned to each resident and will serve as resident advisor to facilitate successful completion of the residency program.  Options  In the non­degree option, the resident spends 111 weeks on hospital duty. The off­clinic time is spent on a required clinical or laboratory research project and preparation for board examinations. Activities planned for off­clinic time should be planned with the assistance of the residency program director or the resident advisor. Other than vacation, residents are required to remain locally available during off-clinic time. You will also be expected to return follow­up calls for your patients and attend scheduled rounds.  The graduate degree (MS, PhD) programs are available from the College of Veterinary Medicine. The area of interest of the resident will determine the department in which she/he will pursue the degree. In the graduate degree option, the resident spends 98 weeks on hospital duty and has the remaining time to pursue a research project. Time is provided for course work while on hospital duty. The PhD degree option is similar to the Master’s degree with respect to total clinic duty, however, the non­clinical portion will take approximately two years longer to complete.  The residency program director and/or the resident advisor will assist the first­year resident in deciding which option to pursue. The decision should be made by the resident prior to November 1st in the year the candidate starts his/her residency. The resident must register his/her candidacy with the ACVIM within the first 90 days of entering the residency program to qualify for ACVIM credentials approval. All residents must update the ACVIM each year regarding their residency program status.  Paraclinical Training  Student rounds are held on various medical topics or in­depth case analysis for 1­2 hours each day. While on hospital rotation, the residents will be asked to lead these rounds approximately 1­2 times per block.  Residents are expected to give a variety of other presentations throughout their residency:  \* Two topics each year for a boards preparation review course with residents and faculty from internal medicine and other specialty areas.  \* One Grand Round seminar each year for senior students, interns, residents and faculty.  \* One lecture each year in the pre­clinical veterinary curriculum – case discussion or a formal topic.  Residents participate in resident rounds weekly with faculty. The format of these rounds varies week to week and includes journal club, morbidity/mortality rounds, and research presentations. Residents will be asked to lead these rounds on a rotating basis.  The residents have organized independent study sessions among themselves to review didactic information for the ACVIM board exams. Residents will be expected to be involved in a research project during his/her program. The results of this project must be presented to the faculty in written form ready for manuscript submission before the residency certificate will be issued.  Resident Evaluation  In order to adequately monitor this training program, the resident will be evaluated twice yearly by the entire internal medicine faculty and other faculty with whom the resident has worked. Student and intern evaluations conducted each block are also considered. Residents will be required to maintain a clinical case log which may also be used in evaluation and for ACVIM documentation. Audit of case records may also be a part of the evaluation process. Residents are also required to keep logs of their journal club, research, publication, and teaching activities on a yearly basis. These logs will be reviewed during the bi­ annual formal review process.  The resident will be evaluated prior to re­appointment for the second year of the residency program and following the completion of the second year. The medicine faculty will consider results of the evaluation process and satisfactory completion of the residency requirements prior to recommending a Certificate of Residency for the individual. The resident must have completed the residency project and have compiled a written report in a form suitable for publication to fulfill that requirement. Master’s or PhD candidates will complete course work and prepare a thesis according to the requirement of the graduate school.  Residency Training Experience  This training program will depend in large measure on echelon teaching. Within the framework of senior faculty, third­year resident, second­year resident, and first­year resident, direct communication in terms of consultation, observation, demonstration, and constructive criticism will contribute to the resident's education. The resident will also be expected to pursue independent study. As previously described, modes of education to be utilized in this training program include: case material, clinicopathologic conferences and seminars, research investigation, and utilization of basic science expertise.  Residency Program Time Plan  A. Non­Degree Option  Year 1  The major impetus during the resident's first 12 months of training will be the development of clinical and problem-solving skills. This will be established by daily exposure to the medical faculty and diversity of clinical cases. Consultation with and supervision by, the faculty of the college of veterinary medicine will be the mainstay of this phase of the training program. In addition, participation in veterinary student rounds, resident rounds, didactic teaching experiences, and departmental seminars will be required.  The resident will function in the Teaching Hospital Monday through Friday. She/he will have responsibility for emergency transfers and in­patients on Saturday and Sunday. The first­year resident will be expected to be on­clinics during the Christmas and New Year vacation. Internal medicine residents also provide primary back up for the interns on emergency duty. This may be limited to phone contact, but may also require after­hours presence in the hospital. Internal medicine residents also rotate responsibility for emergency endoscopy. Faculty backup is available at all times. It is anticipated that the resident will be involved in hospital duties and functions for approximately 60 hours weekly.  The daily activities for medicine residents are dictated by the schedule of their assigned service. Currently, 2 medical teams control the teaching and service obligations for small animal internal medicine cases admitted to the Teaching Hospital. An emergency service admits and provides initial triage and stabilization of internal medicine patients presenting on emergency. These patients may be transferred to the internal medicine service on the day of presentation or the following day. The combined internal medicine services are composed of 2 faculty clinicians, 3-5 technicians, 3-4 residents, 1­2 interns, and 7­10 fourth year veterinary students. Critical care specialists are available for consultation on critical patients. The service and teaching objectives allow broad training in small animal medicine. Teaching rounds for students are conducted every weekday in different formats: didactic, topic rounds, or case­based rounds. Rounds for interns and residents are held daily to discuss all in­house cases and perplexing cases requiring follow up care.  Specialty services consisting of cardiology, oncology, emergency/critical care, and neurology operate separately. The resident will rotate on and off these services, as well as clinical pathology and diagnostic imaging during the program. Other specialty services include anesthesia, clinical nutrition, dermatology, ophthalmology, and surgery. Residents wishing to rotate through these services may do so during their elective rotation blocks.  The resident functions as part of the educational team and is expected to critique the student's ability to solve clinical problems effectively and efficiently. Residents are expected to develop teaching skills such that they can effectively lead rounds and direct students through a problem­oriented approach to medical action. It is expected that the resident will have daily, in depth discussions with students on their shared patients. During any portion of the day, residents may need to supervise or assist interns assigned to their medical service. Residents are expected to be knowledgeable of current literature pertaining to their cases.  One of the goals of the residency program is to provide the resident with research experience, preferably through a short­ term controlled research project or clinical study. The first-year resident, with assistance from his/her faculty advisors, will choose and begin a project to be completed during the second or third year of residency.  Year 2  The second-year resident will continue participation in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital internal medicine program. The second­year resident will be expected to be on­clinics during the Thanksgiving vacation. She/he will conduct the data collection phase of his/her research project. Completion of one or more manuscripts for publication to partially fulfill ACVIM requirements for board certification, and for the residency is expected. The resident will also be provided ~4 weeks immediately prior to the General examination to finish preparation for that examination. Other study time may be taken on earlier blocks as arranged.  Year 3  During the third year, the resident will continue participation in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital internal medicine program. The third­year resident is typically not on­clinics during the Christmas/NY or Thanksgiving vacation. A portion of this time will be spent as chief resident in charge of one of the internal medicine services. This will allow maximum utilization of accumulated medical knowledge and expertise. Areas of weakness will become apparent and provide stimulus for improvement. While off duty, the research project will be completed and written for publication in a refereed journal. The resident will also be provided ~6 weeks prior to the Specialty examination to complete preparation for that examination.  Suggested Time Schedule  Non­Degree Residency  Year 1. Weeks on = 42, weeks off = 10 for project; vacation  Year 2. Weeks on = 36, weeks off = 16 for project data collection; write manuscript; study for boards; take General exam; attend ACVIM meeting; vacation  Year 3. Weeks on = 33, weeks off = 19 for finishing writing project; study for boards; take Specialty exam; attend ACVIM meeting; vacation  B. Master’s Degree Option  This is intended to be a three­year program incorporating the same experiences, responsibilities, and opportunities as outlined for the non­degree option above except that the resident will concurrently obtain an MS degree in a related discipline in lieu of the short term research project. The graduate advisor and resident program director will facilitate scheduling to permit the resident to realize both clinical and graduate degree requirements of this program. Extramural funding may or may not be required, depending on the nature of the project, but the resident’s stipend is covered by the department for the 3 years of residency.  C. Doctor of Philosophy Degree Option  This is intended to be a five­year program incorporating the same experiences, responsibilities, and opportunities as outlined for the non­degree option above except that the resident will concurrently obtain a PhD degree in a related discipline in lieu of the short term research project. The graduate advisor and resident program director will facilitate scheduling to permit the resident to realize both clinical and graduate degree requirements of this program. Funding will be contingent on extramural resources available to the faculty PhD mentor.  Suggested Time Schedule  Graduate Degree Residency  Year 1. Weeks on = 39, weeks off = 13 for project; vacation  Year 2. Weeks on = 30, weeks off = 22 for project data collection; write manuscript; take General exam; attend ACVIM meeting; vacation  Year 3. Weeks on = 29, weeks off = 23 for finishing writing project; study for boards; take Specialty exam; attend ACVIM meeting; vacation | | | |
| Questions about the program should be directed to: | | Dr. Jo Smith, SAIM Residency Program Director |
| Email: | | jorsmith0@gmail.com |
| Telephone-: | | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **All Applicants**  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 ECVFG program, this is not a requirement for the faculty license. A faculty license enables the license holder to practice only within the scope of the residency program. Professional liability insurance is covered only for work performed as a UGA resident; it is the resident’s responsibility to acquire professional liability insurance for work outside of the residency program.  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 required and is the financial responsibility of the individual. Medical insurance is available through the Graduate School at a reasonable rate, but may be waived if proof of coverage is provided. Coverage through the Graduate School will be available beginning August 1, 2021. Please visit the following website for additional information regarding health insurance fees <https://hr.uga.edu/students/student-health-insurance/>. Be advised that the UGA policy will not take effect until August 1, 2021, so you will need to independently obtain health insurance to cover yourself from July 15, 2021, until August 1, 2021.  For every 12 months of training, 10 days of vacation time are provided for House Officers (Residents/Interns), as well as up to 12 days of sick leave. This is a non-certificate graduate program, leading to an official University certificate of completion. A one-time application fee of $75 ($100 for international students) and tuition and student fees (approximately $3000/year) are the responsibility of the individual selected for the program. Required 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. Access to student services is not accessible until the fall semester begins. Parking fees (approximately $240/year) are an additional expense and can be payroll deducted (monthly or yearly).  House Officers (Residents/Interns) 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. The University of Georgia does not participate in the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program. Please consider this information if you desire to participate in the Public Service Loan Forgiveness or other loan repayment programs.  **International Applicants**  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](http://www.toefl.org/) for details). These scores must not be more than two years old. Foreign applicants who 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. International applicants are required to arrive three weeks prior to residency start date in order to obtain social security number, veterinary licensure, and driving license.  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 [2019 ISL Student Resources\_10/31 (uga.edu)](https://isl.uga.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2020/09/Social_Security_Office-TheBasics.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 Global Engagement ([https://globalengagement.uga.edu](https://globalengagement.uga.edu/)). Offers to international applicants are contingent upon successful application for the appropriate visa.  **Additional Information** The University of Georgia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, or veteran status in its programs or activities.  The UGA College of Veterinary Medicine is committed to enhancing the diversity, equity and inclusion of the College and the Veterinary Profession.  Please refer to the following website which includes answers to most frequently asked questions as well as additional information about our program: <https://vet.uga.edu/education/intern-residency-programs/intern-residency-programs/>  We will conduct virtual interviews and will extend requests for interviews after the application deadline. In-person interviews will not be conducted this year. Applications MUST be complete in the VIRMP system by the VIRMP deadline to be considered. Materials processed by the VIRMP after the deadline will not be reviewed, and applications will be considered incomplete. If you have submitted all of your materials to the VIRMP by the deadline, but they have not been processed, please contact the VIRMP directly. 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.  Please email for further information on this program or refer to the Department’s website (<https://vet.uga.edu/education/academic-departments/small-animal-medicine-and-surgery/>).  The UGA Veterinary Teaching Hospital tour:  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zMIR0Ayz6ys&feature=youtu.be> | | |