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## A visit with the Dean

George C. Christensen  
*Iowa State University*

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# A visit with the Dean

During the recent annual meeting of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association in Des Moines, I was greatly impressed by the excellent scientific presentations made by I.S.U. graduates and faculty, the large attendance, the intense interest in papers and demonstrations, the prevailing optimism for the future, and by the participation of our students and their wives in the activities of the Association.

The Placement Service operated by the Student Chapter of the A.V.M.A. seemed to keep very busy and proved its value to students and to practitioners. We are grateful to the practitioners for employing undergraduate veterinary students during summers and for their demonstrated desire to hire members of our 1965 class.

During the past few months our faculty has been very active in its teaching and research efforts. At the Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases, in Chicago, our faculty presented more scientific papers than that of any other veterinary college. We are still progressing with our academic review, and thoughts concerning a revised curricula are evolving. Many of us are looking forward to the A.V.M.A. sponsored symposium on clinical teaching and continuing education to be held in Georgia in June.

The biggest news in December was the

appointment of Dr. W. Robert Parks to succeed Dr. James H. Hilton as President of Iowa State University. Dr. Parks has an enviable record of accomplishment as Vice President for Academic Affairs. The university will be fortunate to have a man with his breadth of experience as leader. Dr. Hilton will retire in July after a most successful 12 years as president. Notable improvements in physical facilities and in the instructional and research programs have been largely due to his outstanding leadership.

As many of you know, I was asked to succeed Dr. Parks as Vice President for Academic Affairs on July 1st. One does not accept a position on this nature without mixed feelings, but I welcome the opportunity to help work for the long-range programs of the university and to help coordinate the academic programs of the two state universities and the state college. In addition, I am very pleased that I will retain my professorship in the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Following the usual custom, a committee has been chosen to present the names of candidates for the deanship to the president. I am confident that a distinguished educator with demonstrated experience and interest in professional affairs will be selected.

In my new capacity, I will continue to encourage the adoption of farsighted programs and will lend them my support. Present and future students are deserving of up-to-date curricula and enlightened teaching. Alumni are entitled to dynamic, frequent programs in continuing education and to the best possible support of the diagnostic laboratory, the clinics, and the extension service.

The faculty has been busily engaged in discussions regarding curriculum, a new, physical plant, graduate training and research problems. I know that the momentum will accelerate. Rapid strides must be taken if the College of Veterinary Medicine is to assume its full responsibility to veterinary education, to the livestock industry, and to the public health needs of the nation.

Higher education in Iowa is in an exciting era. I am certain Iowa State University will progress at a remarkable rate under the presidency of Dr. W. Robert Parks and that the climate for advances in veterinary medical education has never been brighter. I am humbly grateful for the unqualified support given to me by alumni, faculty, students, and members of the I.V.M.A. Although my term as dean will come to a close on July 1st after two extremely happy years, I will continue to work closely with you and with our new dean. My door in Beardshear Hall will always be open to you.

Sincerely yours,  
George C. Christensen

Since 1939  
a name  
veterinarians have  
depended on  
for biologicals  
of proved  
efficacy

