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Dr. Pearson,
New Dean of Veterinary Medicine

Phillip Pearson didn't roam far from the old homestead to establish a top reputation in the academic world. A native of Story County and a graduate of Ames High School, Dr. Pearson became dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State June 1 of this year.

A member of the ISU faculty since 1957, with the exception of one year, his new appointment also includes that of Director of the Veterinary Medical Research Institute.

The new dean is widely known for his work in surgery, for his teaching and his research. He became a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1968.

For many years he has been actively engaged in research concerned with artificial heart studies, arthritis, dental implants, fracture repair, and joint surgery.

His lecturing ability is well established. He has presented lectures to professional groups in many areas of the country, including a series of lectures on veterinary orthopedic surgery in Oregon and Hawaii sponsored by state professional organizations.

Dr. Pearson received his D.V.M. degree in 1956 and his Ph.D. in 1962, both from Iowa State. He interned at Angell Memorial Animal Hospital, Boston, Mass., 1956-57, and then joined the Iowa State faculty in 1957 as an instructor in the Department of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery. He was named Assistant Professor in 1960, and Associate Professor in 1963.

In 1964 he was named Professor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery and Associate Clinic Director at the University of Missouri before returning to ISU in 1965 as Professor of Veterinary Clinical Sciences.

His honors include the Outstanding Teacher Award at ISU, the Ames Young Religious Leader of the Year Award, Gaines Award and medal, Norden Distinguished Teacher Award and the Small Animal Award.

Dr. Pearson recently completed a term as Secretary of the Examination Board of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons; is presently a member of the Editorial Board, Journal of the American Animal Hospital Association; a member of the Board of Regents of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons; is chairman of the membership committee, and is on the small animal program committee of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association.

He is also a member of the American Veterinary Medical Assn., the American Assn. of Veterinary Clinicians, American Society for Artificial Internal Organs, and the Iowa Academy of Veterinary Practice.

His honor society memberships include Iowa State University Veterinarian
Phi Zeta, Alpha Zeta, Gamma Sigma Delta, Sigma Xi and Phi Kappa Phi. He has been a member of several University committees including scholarship and student affairs, is now chairman of the grant review committee and is one of the board of directors of the Memorial Union.

At 39, Dr. Pearson is one of Iowa State's youngest deans. As a result of his past positions in the Veterinary College and his youthfulness he enjoys good rapport with faculty and students.

The new dean has inherited a few complexities. One, the lack of pay increases for faculty due to appropriation cutting in the state legislature, may be responsible for some faculty moving on to other positions. The Veterinary School, unlike other parts of the University, has been given special consideration and the reduction in funds has not been as great as education in general has experienced.

Dr. Pearson will see the enrollment of the ISU Veterinary College increase from just over 90 students per class to 120 when Phase I and II of the new college facilities being built now are completed. With this will come an expansion of the faculty and more federal funds. The present policy of accepting only the most qualified students, whether two, three, or four-year Pre-Vets will be continued though.

Dean Pearson expects to see a swing to more selective clinics in the senior year as specialization occurs earlier. This he feels should not overshadow the fact that an ISU graduate should be highly versatile. In the future, he foresees the development of more retraining programs and short courses to keep the graduate up to date.

Most of all, Dean Pearson hopes, with the help of the students and the faculty, to maintain the present academic standards as well as establishing newer and higher levels of excellence in the Veterinary College at Iowa State University.