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Remembering Dean Pearson

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gets better information to students. The problem arises when the right balance is not maintained. A good Dean gets maximum utilization out of faculty members. The biggest problem I see in teaching today is a professor’s tendency to give too much detail. Some instructors want to make you experts in their field. There’s just too much material to allow that.” In fact, Iowa State is taking steps to alter its approach to teaching with a significant change in the first year professional courses. Restructuring of the anatomy curriculum allows students to focus their interests earlier and the inclusion of an ethics class addresses philosophical issues of the profession. These modifications coupled with an introduction to clinics through senior presentations, and a problem solving approach to courses shows an effort to deal with the ever-changing needs of the veterinary medical field. Changes of this nature are incipient throughout the College of Veterinary Medicine for all students.

As the saying goes, times change. Well, so do people and their situations. For Dr. Phillip Pearson a change and a challenge is coming, and I think it’s the sort of thing on which he thrives. After all those years in the front office he is heading back into the trenches, as it were. I rather like the circularity of that move. As I sat there talking to him I had a real sense that he isn’t too worried about the switch because he has been around the block, and knows that there are ups and downs attached to most everything. I wish him well. “If teaching is as important as I say it is,“ he told me, “then this is really a move up.” And so it is.

**DEAN PEARSON REMEMBERED**

D. E. Hauser, DVM*

My first memories of Phil Pearson were from a cappella choir, Ames High School, in 1948 and ’49. He had a cherubic face and first tenor voice to match. I remember him as a nice guy as he was as short and immature as I was. Our paths parted as he graduated from Ames High a year after me, in 1950.

I had thoughts about Veterinary School of the next four years but ended up combining a pot-pourri of classes into a B.S. in Farm Operations. At that time in my life, grade point was not the first priority. After two years in the army and a year of attempting to repair a sagging grade point, I was accepted into Veterinary School (more maturity, Joan and 2 kids were changing my priorities). And to my surprise there was Phil Pearson, currently Dr. P. T. Pearson. He had not dawdled his college years, as had some of us.

I remember him as an excellent teacher, always patient with dumb questions and students, dropped arteries and instruments. Of course, surgery classes were the ultimate of all this education, and he made it even more exciting. We could not be friends at that stage because of the teacher-student relationship. There has been and always will be, mutual respect. I have been proud of his accomplishments.

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