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The Iowa State University/University of Glasgow Veterinary Student Exchange

In 1984 the presidents of Iowa State University and the University of Glasgow (Scotland) signed an agreement authorizing exchanges between the two institutions. The program at present consists of five parts: 1) a one-year exchange of undergraduates on a one-to-one basis, participants paying both academic fees and room and board to their home universities; 2) three-month to one-year faculty visits on either an exchange or an individual basis; 3) scientific employees; 4) six- to ten-week exchange visits by veterinary students to conduct clinical classwork; and 5) summer employment by Glasgow students in ISU laboratories. The ISU/Glasgow Exchange Program is the most complete exchange program between an American and an overseas university.

Dr. Peter J. Reilly, a professor in chemical engineering at Iowa State University has been the coordinator of the ISU program since its beginning.

The veterinary medicine component of the exchange is administered by Dr. William Reece of ISU's Department of Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology and by Dr. Jack Boyd of Glasgow's Department of Veterinary Anatomy. Dr. Reece participated in the faculty exchange component for six months in 1986-1987. The veterinary student exchanges began in 1989 and the students with their year of participation are listed as follows:


Momentum for the exchange is increasing and six ISU students are presently making plans for participation in the 1992-1993 academic year.

The University of Glasgow Veterinary School is one of six veterinary schools in the United Kingdom. One other, The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies at the University of Edinburgh, is also in Scotland. The other four are in England at Bristol, Liverpool, Cambridge, and London.

The University of Glasgow Veterinary School Curriculum is uniquely similar to that at Iowa State University. Their final year is free from classroom lecturing and is devoted to clinical rotations. All of the rotations at ISU are also provided at Glasgow. The field services at Glasgow takes place at Lanark, a rural setting about 40 miles south of Glasgow. The University of Glasgow owns the veterinary practice and the facility includes an apartment to house the 3 to 5 students that are assigned for 2-week periods. Also, the University of Glasgow operates a charity clinic (Peoples Dispensary for Sick Animals) in downtown Glasgow where 7 to 8 students are assigned for periods of up to 2 1/2 weeks. Both ISU and Glasgow students have selected rotations of their choice and in most instances the selections have been accommodated.

During the final year at Glasgow, students must have experienced 6 weeks of veterinary practice. In some instances, their ISU experience qualified for that compulsory requirement. Iowa State students obtain elective credit from Iowa State University in International Studies for their experience. For both ISU and Glasgow students, subjective evaluations are rendered by the instructors in charge of their selected rotations. Participants from both institutions have worked hard and are a source of pride.

University of Glasgow students come to ISU during the summer prior to their final year. All of their senior year must be in residence during each of their three quarters. Iowa State students go to Glasgow during some time of their fall or winter quarters. Their time in Glasgow is part of their senior year preceptorship experience. Accordingly, ISU students must reserve appropriate time to be away from ISU about one year in advance of their departure. Housing for the Glasgow students has been accommodated by Omega Tau Sigma, the veterinary fraternity. Housing for ISU students has been arranged through the University of Glasgow or by Glasgow students that have been at Iowa State.

The ISU/Glasgow Exchange has been
an excellent international experience opportunity and is in keeping with the increased emphasis of Iowa State University's internationalization agenda. All ISU/Glasgow exchanges are coordinated through the Study Abroad Center at Iowa State University.

Practitioners: Host a Foreign Student

Enhance the daily routine of your practice by hosting a foreign veterinary student. We are looking for enthusiastic practitioners to volunteer their time and expertise for 1 to 12 weeks and provide a foreign veterinary student with hands-on training and insight to American veterinary practice and management. Please join our program and add some cultural flair to your practice while providing a beneficial educational opportunity to a foreign veterinary student. The exchange program depends on practitioner involvement. For further information please contact:

SAVMA International Veterinary Student Relations Committee Chair
c/o Dr. Karen Wernette
930 N. Meachum Rd.
Schaumburg, IL 60196

Sponsored by the International Veterinary Student Relations Committee of the Student AVMA in conjunction with the International Veterinary Student’s Association.

Veterinary exchange students from Glasgow (summer '91): Seated, left to right: Judith Blasdale, Dr. Reece, Joanne McKelvie. Standing, left to right: Amanda Turnbull, Leslie Falconer

Eric Jayne (ISU '91) near Lanark, Scotland.

Michael, Peter and Elizabeth Jayne on the shore of Loch Ness, Scotland.