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Lisa DeNault
Iowa State University

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Deb Burdick Receives SCAVMA Outstanding Service Award

Lisa De Nault*

The SCAVMA Outstanding Service Award is given to a non-faculty employee of the college who has made a significant contribution to supporting student learning or the college experience. This year's recipient is Deb Burdick. She is responsible for the awarding and monitoring of all financial aid programs for Veterinary Medicine students. Deb takes the time to come over from main campus to the veterinary school once a week to council vet students on budgeting, financial aid questions, and debt repayment. Deb's gifted guidance makes it much easier for students to concentrate upon studies and to worry less about financing veterinary school.

Deb Burdick received a Bachelors of Science in Consumer Science and a Masters of Science in Higher Education Administration from Iowa State University. Currently, she is the Assistant Director for the Office of Student Financial Aid at ISU. Besides helping veterinary students, Deb oversees targeted gift assistance programs for minority students, develops financial aid publications for adult, off-campus, extension, and vet med students, conducts outreach programs and presentations, and serves on many university committees. She also supervises support and student employee staff in the Special Population Unit.

Prior to being Assistant Director, she was a Counselor in the Office of Student Financial Aid at ISU and was the past Director of Student Financial Aid Office at Iowa Methodist School of Nursing. In addition to her academic duties, Deb serves in many professional organizations including the Midwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators and the Iowa Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. Most recently, Deb presented at the Health Professions Financial Aid Administrators Conference where she talked about Professional Judgment and Budget Development.

Deb Burdick is an invaluable part of the College of Veterinary Medicine experience. She goes above and beyond to help veterinary students with their increasing debt load incurred during veterinary school. She volunteers her time to talk about budgeting and planning for the future in order to deal with the expected debt when coming out of veterinary school. She also plans senior exit interviews for loan consolidation and helps senior veterinary students plan for the future. She holds these meetings not only for senior veterinary students but for any veterinary student who would like to attend.

Deb is an extremely energetic and caring individual. She is very honored to be recognized for her service to veterinary students. We are very lucky to have such a person helping us. So if you have never met Deb, make an appointment because I guarantee you that she can help you or will find out who can!

Deb Burdick is a very deserving recipient of the SCAVMA Outstanding Service Award.

*Lisa De Nault is a third-year veterinary student at the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine.