Strategy: 1.2 Design Curriculum and training programs to meet current and future societal needs

Date: Fall Quarter 2012

Summary of Activities:
Borjesson and Watson met 4 times to discuss directions and specific goals. Identified two broad areas of emphasis, Graduate level training and DVM level training.

For graduate level training, determined that first year efforts will be focused on the development of future academic leaders in veterinary medicine including the following 4 initiatives:

1) the creation of alternative (shorter) educational paths for students interested in pursuing academic careers
2) the identification of resources to fund high-quality graduate students
3) the development of advanced training (clinical and research fellowship) opportunities and
4) the provision of support for transition between graduate clinical training and graduate research training

Met with CTSC Director (Lars Berglund) to discuss program design for Veterinary Research Fellowships in potential collaboration with the CTSC and UCD SOM. (1.2 and 7.2)

For DVM level training, determined that first year efforts will be focused on the completion of the new curriculum (planning and implementation) as well as planning for the continuous review and improvement of the DVM curriculum into the future.

Resource Materials/Data Analysis

DVM training:

SVM Curriculum Committee Report from Spring Faculty Meeting

The Curriculum Committee has met 10 times (since August 1st) to review new block courses for the second year, to review revised blocks for the first year curriculum, and to consider other issues pertaining to the curriculum.

Associate Dean Ilkiw has attended approximately 160 Block Course Meetings (since May 2012) to assist with the scheduling and coordination of the new curricular block courses.
Graduate training:

Admissions data for Comp Path showing decreased numbers of professional students admitted
GGCP Curriculum Committee Report at Fall Meeting

The Educational Committee in the Comparative Pathology Graduate Group met approximately 8
times to revamp the core curriculum for graduate students entering our program (see
accomplishments below).

Upcoming Activities/Initiatives

DVM training:

1) Completion and implementation of the Spring Semester second year block courses.
2) Completion of the planning for the 3rd year streams (Small Animal/CAPE, Large Animal/Zoo
Med and Comparative)
3) Undertake planning for the extended Fourth Clinical Year of the New Curriculum.
4) Conduct a survey of Stakeholders regarding the essential competencies for new DVM
graduates (Stakeholders to include representatives from all aspects of veterinary profession)

Graduate training:

1) Identify key stakeholders and players for creating a new vision for graduate education for
DVMs
2) Seek input and/or create an ad-hoc committee for each initiative
3) Investigate and fully understand options currently available (fellowships, collaborations
between basic and clinical scientists)
4) Explore how other institutions are addressing the issue (including veterinary schools, medical
schools, National Institutes of Health and private research institutions among others)
5) Develop a proposal including summary, objectives, plan, implementation timeline and budget
6) Deliver proposal to the Dean’s office for discussion at appropriate venues

Accomplishments

DVM training:
Faculty Development: TBL Workshop with Dr. Holly Bender August 16 & 17. (23 faculty
attended)
PBL Facilitator Training August X (1.2 and 6.2)

TBL Faculty Working Group (Community of Practice): Meets biweekly to learn and practice
Team Based Learning as an approach to curriculum delivery. (1.2 and 6.2)

Two new Block courses were delivered for the first time: Cardio-Respiratory and Renal-Urinary.
Graduate training:
Outlined a proposal for Veterinary Academic Leadership Fellowship to assist post-residency DVMs to enter a high quality research training program, submitted to Dean Lairmore for review, modification and approval. Goal is to initiate these fellowships for Fall, 2013 (1.2)

Key successes in a year-long revision of the graduate curriculum in the Comparative Pathology graduate group include the development of a 2-quarter core course in Integrative Pathobiology (see below), the reduction of extensive traditional statistics courses and replacement with basic statistics followed by a relevant, hands-on course in Experimental design, and increased course flexibility (for example, increased options for training in Ethics)

Integrative Pathobiology will be taught as the flagship course in the Comparative Pathology (soon to be Integrative Pathobiology) graduate group. The curriculum was designed to present an integrated view of pathogenesis at the molecular, cellular, tissue, organ system, and organismal levels. The course includes modules on topics in molecular biology (DNA techniques), cell biology, tissue biology (tissue structure/function), cellular basis of disease, integrated system biology and organism/population health (one health). Highlights of this course include modular sessions to facilitate resident training in addition to training graduate students, integrated systems modules, technique oriented discussions and numerous journal clubs.

MPVM program faculty had numerous meetings and submitted By-Laws to Graduate Division to become a Graduate Group.

MPVM Curriculum Committee met numerous times to design an updated block curriculum for the program. The faculty met this Fall Quarter and voted to move ahead with the curricular plan.