Dear ISU CVM Students,

As you are aware from President Wintersteen’s March 11, 2020 message to the Iowa State Community, Iowa State University is moving all classes online beginning Monday, March 23 and continuing through April 3, 2020. Additionally, “Laboratories, studios, performance instruction, computer labs, and other experiential learning sections will not be held March 23 – April 3.” These conditions apply to all veterinary courses and laboratories in years 1 - 3 as well as graduate and undergraduate courses.

At this time, the college has received permission to continue to offer fourth year clinical instruction in clinical rotations in the Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center and other locations as scheduled.

The change in VM1-3 instruction will require creativity and flexibility from both you and your instructors. Your instructors have a variety of options for making their courses available to you on-line. Each instructor will choose the best option available to them given their course content, comfort with specific on-line formats, and other resources. We have confidence in your instructors. Even more importantly, we have confidence in you. The research is clear that the most important factor in learning success is what the learner brings to the equation. We have confidence that you will seize this opportunity to learn and seek information in ways that will be effective, notwithstanding current constraints.

Questions and Answers:

Many questions you may have are addressed in the FAQ for Students and other sections of the University’s COVID-19 response page. Please review these pages, which are updated frequently. The following additional questions have been posed by veterinary students, or may address issues specific to the Veterinary School:

**Will students be permitted to enter the veterinary college between March 23 and April 3?**

Unless directed otherwise by the Board of Regents or University President, the college will remain open, and will be accessible to all of our community, including students. However, as noted in other communications and above, face-to-face instruction will not be offered in VM 1-3 courses, and students who leave Ames for Spring break are encouraged to remain in their
home communities. Students who choose to enter the college are encouraged to follow CDC and IDPH guidance regarding limiting your own risk, and others’ risk associated with COVID-19 and similar illnesses.

_Do the changes and limitations in course activities announced by President Wintersteen apply to the veterinary college?_

Yes. However, the college has been granted permission to continue to offer clinical instruction face-to-face in fourth year clinical rotations.

_Will the changes in course delivery affect academic time-line, including time-line to graduation?_

No, the currently announced changes will not influence the academic time-line overall, or time-line to graduation. The Board of Regents’ response to the COVID-19 outbreak could lead to future adjustments.

_In addition to traditional classroom lectures, will live animal surgery laboratories be continued?_

No. As is the case for all VM 1-3, graduate course, and undergraduate course laboratories, for the two week period following spring break no previously scheduled live animal surgery laboratories (such as in VCS 394 and 451) will be performed. Course instructors responsible for those laboratories will be providing alternate learning experiences through the same on-line delivery mechanisms as for other traditional classroom lectures during that time.

Please feel free to direct course-specific questions to your course instructors, and to contact me if you have more general questions. Answers to college specific questions will be posted and updated at the College’s COVID-19 information page. Have a safe and relaxing spring break!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Jared Danielson
Associate Dean, Academic and Student Affairs