Dear ISU CVM Class of 2026,

On behalf of the Student American Veterinary Medical Association at Iowa State, I would like to congratulate and welcome you to the College of Veterinary Medicine! The next four years will be challenging, yet equally rewarding.

The Student American Veterinary Medical Association (SAVMA) is an extremely active organization that represents veterinary students and their interests on a local and national level. In essence, we are the student version of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). We strive to enhance your veterinary education by providing opportunities for leadership and professional growth. These include but are not limited to conferences, wet labs, networking socials, community outreach, and professional development series. Benefits of SAVMA membership additionally include complementary scrubs and smocks, liability insurance, and travel scholarships. I encourage you, as a student of the College of Veterinary Medicine, to become an active member of our SAVMA chapter.

In an effort to prepare you for the beginning of your veterinary education, Iowa State’s SAVMA and the college administration are co-sponsoring an orientation program that is required for first-year students. Orientation will take place Thursday, August 18th – Friday, August 19th, 2022. This program will introduce you to the college and your classmates--helping you to start your life as a veterinary student. At orientation, we will distribute your laptop computers and provide college tours to acclimate you to your classrooms and labs. This program will be packed with valuable information, so put this mandatory event on your calendar today.

We will also have some fun along the way! There will be optional (but encouraged) evening socials which will allow you to mingle with classmates, students, and faculty. In particular, there will be a picnic Thursday evening that parents, spouses, children, and significant others are welcomed to attend. Following the picnic, SAVMA will be hosting SAVMA CYTES, a Scavenger Hunt of Ames. Students will be divided into small groups and paired with orientation student leaders to explore Ames from the perspective of a vet student. Please RSVP for orientation along with these two social events.

Again, congratulations on being a member of the Class of 2026! We are excited to meet you and welcome you to the next chapter of your life. If we can help you in any way or answer questions before school begins, please feel free to contact us. We look forward to meeting you all!

Sincerely,

Clara Young (cyoung28@iastate.edu) and Taylor Sorrells (sorrells@iastate.edu)
Iowa State SAVMA President and Iowa State SAVMA President-elect, respectively