College of Veterinary Medicine (1-31-14)
Dean’s Office

ADD: DVM 101. Careers in Veterinary Medicine. (1) I, II. Students in the CAPS Veterinary Medicine course will experience the vast opportunities associated with veterinary medicine. Students will explore the many ways animals interact with society, including food production, companion and working animals, domestic as well as exotic animals. Concurrently, students will be able to explore the dynamic array of career paths available including private veterinary practice, industry, research, drug development, food production, food safety, military and government, shelter medicine, diagnostic medicine, and public health (zoonotic diseases). Emphasis will be placed on development of student professionalism and problem-solving skills during case study modules in which students will examine the integrated components of the whole animal (in lieu of segmented learning). Each multi-dimensional case study offers a variety of analyses and techniques for a student to explore, dependent on individual interests. This student-driven approach leads to a unique and individualized learning experience. CAPS Veterinary Medicine will include relevant content, skills, projects, career exploration and community interactions to allow our students to be highly competitive in their chosen animal-related career path.

RATIONALE: We have been asked to develop a veterinary strand for interested academically qualified high school juniors and seniors in the Blue Valley School District CAPS (Center for Advanced Professional Studies) in Overland Park, Kansas. The CAPS program is an entrepreneurial, innovative approach to education that is designed to give high school students hands-on, real world experience in a profession of their choice. The CAPS program currently offers courses within four strands: bioscience, business, engineering, and human services. Students are fully immersed in a profession-based learning approach. Students enrolled in these four strands can currently earn college credit for successful completion of a CAPS strand at other institutions. Because the only veterinary college in Kansas is located at Kansas State University and because several KSU graduates and KSU CVM faculty have been involved in development of the veterinary strand the college credit for this course should be from KSU. This strand will help high school students interested in veterinary medicine develop their careers and ultimately be a “feeder” program of highly qualified students for the KSU CVM. As additional colleges of veterinary medicine within the United States open and existing colleges of veterinary medicine increase class sizes, competition for highly qualified students interested in veterinary medicine is increasing. This course will not only help Kansas high school students make educated career decisions, but will also provide the KSU CVM with an additional “feeder” program. These students will be “groomed” to enter a variety of careers within veterinary medicine, many of which are currently considered nontraditional.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2014