**EXTRAMURAL STUDY AWARD SCHEME IN PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

**Programme for Veterinary Students**

All veterinary students need to spend some time gaining work experience in the veterinary field with veterinarians. The general areas such as equine or farm animal and companion animal medicine are normally addressed by the individual vet school. However, the specialist areas may be harder to find.
EVERI (European Veterinarians in Education, Research and Industry, a section of the Federation of Veterinarians in Europe, FVE) functions as information hub which will address this situation. EVERI is in process to establish contact with the various colleges of specialisation to gauge the interest for a proposal addressing the specialist needs of **PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY.**

**Background**

Veterinarians have a vital role in the **PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**. This position is reflected in all regulated areas worldwide. It is an area of specialisation to which under graduates get little exposure during their training except for veterinary students in countries with a certain degree of **PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**. The area is not immediately attractive to young graduates and the continuing entry of young graduates into the **PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY** specialisation should be fostered on a European and international level.

**Scheme**

A scheme by which veterinary students will be encouraged and supported to undertake extra mural studies (EMS) in this area has been established by EVERI.

University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno, Faculty of Veterinary Hygiene and Ecology has agreed to host **2 students** for **2 weeks** at their practical training each year (the students will attend lectures, practical seminars, workshops and excursions).

The students are given vouched expenses of up to 1000 €. Funds are provided from various commercial sources including seafood companies.

**A typical program will have the following components**

* Practical training in care of The University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno, Faculty of Veterinary Hygiene and Ecology.
* The teaching will be in **English** in during summer school (5 weeks in July/August).
* The students can choose **2 weeks** depending on program that he/she prefer (see enclosure).
* The teaching methods are **practical seminars, workshops, lectures and excursions**.
* Possibility of trips during weekend.
* Course evaluation.

**Participation of Veterinary schools**

To enable this scheme to move ahead it is necessary to have the co-operation of the veterinary schools which are prepared to participate in the scheme.

It is necessary that the involved vet university is prepared to:

* Make information available to their students about the scheme i.e. provide facilities for publicity e.g. web and a method to distribute information to the students. We will also use IVSA to achieve this.
* Provide a contact person to co-ordinate the scheme within the school.
* Allow their students credits for their participation in the scheme; students will spend two weeks at the University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno.

**Management of the scheme**

1. A student who wishes to use the scheme will apply to EVERI on the application form and send it to EVERI (ems.everi@fve.org).
2. The status of the student will be verified by an appropriate person in the vet school and confirmed to EVERI.
3. EVERI will connect the student with representatives from The University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno, Faculty of Veterinary Hygiene and Ecology.
4. A programme and time scale covers for the **PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY** scheme two weeks as described above and can be further detailed between the host and the student.
5. The visit will take place.
6. The student will provide a report to the vet school and to EVERI, which must be received by EVERI before expenses are reimbursed.
7. The student will claim expenses up to 1000 €. These to be vouched for by the host veterinarian.

**Funding**

* A sustainable program over 3 years has been established. A fund is made available through economical support from the companies MSD Animal Health and Pharmaq.
* This allows **2 students** per year to be placed at **1000 euro each**.
* Report from the students will be made available for the sponsors.
* The sponsors will be given the opportunity to visit the students and the host veterinarian during their stay.
* The sponsors are offered to express their logos on all EVERI papers produced concerning this scheme.
* The program will provide an EMS experience which will educate veterinary students, interested in **PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY** to be used later on in their further career.