June 20, 2016

Class of 2020:

On behalf of this year’s Orientation Committee, we would like to welcome you to the NC State College of Veterinary Medicine! We look forward to you joining the CVM community and hope your time with us will be a rewarding and successful experience.

Orientation [REQUIRED]
Orientation begins the evening of Tuesday, August 2nd, 2016 with the Welcome Dinner at the College of Veterinary Medicine campus. Following this will be three full days of Orientation activities on August 3rd, 4th, and 5th, and culminating with the White Coat Ceremony on Saturday, August 6th (see attached orientation schedule). Our goals are to welcome you to the profession of veterinary medicine; to provide you with the basics to navigate your way through your first year; and to create opportunities for you to get to know your classmates and begin to build a sense of community, both as a class and with the rest of the CVM. We hope the combination of presentations by many faculty, staff and students; small and large group activities; and social time will help you start to feel a sense of home and prepare you to begin the semester. Orientation is essential to a successful first-year experience, attendance at all activities is required. Please see the attached schedule for details.

Welcome Dinner [REQUIRED]
The Welcome Dinner Tuesday, August 2nd from 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm will take place at the CVM campus. There will be great food, games, and group activities. Bring your appetite and come ready to meet classmates, returning students, faculty and staff. Please indicate your food preferences and other information on the survey listed below by July 8.

Although the Welcome Dinner is for members of the Class of 2020 only, we will be holding a reception and workshop for students and their spouses/partners one evening during the first two weeks of class (date and time TBA).

White Coat Ceremony – Saturday, August 6th
Members of the Class of 2020 will be formally inducted into the veterinary profession during the 17th Annual White Coat Ceremony, to be held at the Jane S. McKimmon Center on Saturday, August 6, 2016 at 3:00pm. Please arrive at the McKimmon Center by 2:00pm.

Please note you should select a presenter who you feel was instrumental in your pursuit of a veterinary career (Mentor, Practitioner, Family Member, etc.). The number of individuals in the RSVP includes yourself, your presenter, and up to four others (for a maximum of 6).
IMPORTANT: PLEASE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING BY THE DUE DATES:

**Information Needed by Friday, July 1**

**Information Needed by Friday, July 8**
- Please complete the Class of 2020 [Orientation Survey](http://goo.gl/forms/HqY8wnaeqF)
- **Clifton StrengthsFinder Online Self-Assessment.** To prepare for Orientation, we would like you to complete the Clifton StrengthsFinder Assessment. We will be using the tenets of the StrengthsFinder through your DVM program to help you better identify your core abilities/strengths and how they may translate to veterinary learning experiences and career opportunities.

  *Please follow the instructions below:*  
  2. Copy and paste the access code XN57TH63ST56NZ79 into the available field, and then click [Continue](#).  
  3. Follow the onscreen instructions to create a Gallup Strengths Center account.  
  4. Once registered, you will be able to take the Clifton StrengthsFinder assessment. Please give yourself 45 minutes of uninterrupted time to complete it.  
  5. If you encounter issues with your access code, please contact us. For all other issues, please view the Gallup Strengths Center Help page.

- **Informal Photo.** Please send an *informal* digital photo of yourself via the *Upload Your Photo* tab on the online modules site (see enrollment instructions below). The photo will be a part of a digital slideshow of the incoming class available to everyone at the CVM on the internal website. The slideshow will also list your undergraduate institution and your veterinary medicine interest areas. The photo can include pets if you like!

**To Be Completed Before Orientation**
- **Online Modules to be Completed Prior to Orientation.** In order to provide you with information that is critical to your first semester at the CVM, we have elected to place important information in online modules, rather than inundate you with information during Orientation. At the conclusion of the modules, there is a [quiz that must be completed prior to Orientation](#)

  *To access the modules:*  
  1. Go to [http://go.ncsu.edu/cvm-orientation](http://go.ncsu.edu/cvm-orientation) and enroll using the enrollment key: cvm (all lowercase)  
  2. You will only need to enroll the first time you visit the site.

*Please note that the Upload Your Photo assignment on the modules site must be completed by Friday, July 8.* Completion of the modules and the quiz are required before Orientation.
Dress
Dress is informal – please wear comfortable shoes and clothes, tee shirts and shorts are fine – with the exception of the White Coat Ceremony which is business professional. Class composite photos (head/shoulders) will be taken on Thursday, August 4th over lunch.

Parking and Directions
As you know, beginning July 5 at 10am, you may apply for a CC parking permit [http://www2.acs.ncsu.edu/trans/parking/students.html](http://www2.acs.ncsu.edu/trans/parking/students.html) which allows you to park in the CVM parking deck and the North lot (by the Ramada Inn). Please do not park in the lot directly in front of the Terry Center or the Health and Wellness Center which are reserved for hospital clients and employees, or the C lot directly across the street from the Health and Wellness Center which is reserved for employees. A map of the CVM campus indicating CC parking areas is available at: [http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu/directions/](http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu/directions/)

We are all looking forward to your arrival! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us, we are happy to help!

Best wishes,

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