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April 30, 2012

Dr. Melanie Landis Blinn College Veterinary Technology Program 2423 Blinn Blvd Bryan, TX 77805

American Veterinary Medical Association

Dear Dr. Landis:

Congratulations! At its April 27 – 29, 2012 meeting, the AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) granted provisional accreditation to the Blinn College veterinary technology program after deliberation of the report of evaluation from the February 15 - 17, 2012 site visit. Accreditation is effective February 17, 2012 and remains in effect until your next site visit, contingent upon favorable review of requested reports.

A final copy of the report of evaluation is included and a copy will be sent to college administration as indicated in the near future.

The critical recommendations are that:

- 1. Animal housing be in compliance with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal Welfare Act (AWA) regulations with respect to appropriateness of kennel construction. (4d)
- 2. All facilities used in Program instruction be compliant with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and other safety considerations with respect to secondary labeling of repackaged materials, safety signage, availability of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS), presence of beverages in the laboratory, availability of and testing of eyewash and showers, and presence of personal items in nonprogram laboratories. (4e)
- 3. Materials used for demonstration purposes, including those that are outdated, be appropriately identified. (4f)
- 4. The Program have an institutional animal care and use committee (IACUC) that functions in accordance with Animal Welfare Act (AWA) guidelines. (5a)
- 5. Medical records and logs consistently emulate contemporary veterinary practice standards. (5d)
- 6. Students complete the curriculum. (10a)
- 7. Evidence exist that all required skills have been performed by all students and have been evaluated by Program personnel using standardized criteria. (10e)
- Outcomes be assessed using performance of graduates on the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE), Program-specific surveys of graduates and employers, and feedback from the advisory committee, and an analysis of the results of those assessments be used for continued Program improvement. (11a, 11b)

The major recommendations are that:

- 1. Increasing numbers of Program students be accompanied by an appropriate increase in fiscal, human, and clinical resources available to the Program. (2, 4a, 5b, 9a)
- 2. Plans be in place to assure adequate space for student instruction in all facilities used in Program instruction as enrollment in the Program grows. (4a)
- 3. General housekeeping be improved in non-Program laboratories in which Program students are taught. (4a)
- 4. Relevant library holdings, including texts, periodicals, and databases, continue to be expanded. (6a)
- 5. The Program fill the clinical coordinator position as planned. (9a)

The Committee considered the post site visit response to the critical and major recommendations in its accreditation decision. After consideration of the documentation provided, the Committee has determined that the following recommendations have been addressed at this time:

Critical recommendation(s): 2, 3

Your program is on an annual reporting schedule; however, the Committee has requested an interim report due fall 2012 (September 6, 2012) to address the critical and major recommendations. Please note documentation must exist that the personnel evaluating the acquisition of essential skills of program students are program personnel and have been trained in the use of the standardized criteria. A point for clarification, the Committee does not consider the program's post-visit response to critical recommendation # 1 to adequately meet the need for appropriately constructed animal housing.

The annual report will be due spring 2013 (March 1, 2013). The next full accreditation site visit is scheduled for 2017.

Congratulations on achieving accreditation for your program. On behalf of the evaluation committee, thank you for the courtesy and hospitality shown during the site visit. If you have any questions, or if we may be of assistance in the preparation of your next report, please do not hesitate to contact us at 800-248-2862 or Ms. Julie Horvath (<u>ihorvath@avma.org</u>; ext. 6624).

Sincerely,

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cc: Dr. Thena Parrott, Division Chair-Allied Health