

VDPAM Operational Plan 2015–2022

(Updated 9-16-2019)

Vision:

The vision of VDPAM is to support the continual improvement of food animal agriculture and food supply veterinary medicine to benefit Iowa and the world.

Mission:

Serving Animal Agriculture by:

- **Continually improving the curriculum and methods of teaching in the preeminent Food Supply Veterinary Medical Program.**
- **Providing timely, accurate, high-quality and comprehensive clinical and diagnostic services.**
- **Being globally recognized leaders in implementation of disease control practices, diagnostic services, enhanced food safety processes, and animal welfare programs.**
- **Continually improving food and fiber animal production by whole system analysis through acknowledgment of the interactions of disease, diet, environment, animal behavior, animal welfare, and humans.**
- **Leading evidence-based research initiatives in food animal diseases, animal behavior, animal welfare, food safety, risk assessment and modeling and transferring knowledge obtained between academia, practitioners, producers, and the public.**
- **Fostering a sustainable, proactive environment for service, teaching, outreach, and research.**
- **Establishing interdisciplinary teams to support One Health Medicine and address the complex animal health, public health, animal welfare, and production efficiency challenges.**

VDPAM Operational Plan 2015-2022

Goal 1: Become opinion leaders in clinical and diagnostic medicine

- *Build a state-of-the-art Veterinary Diagnostic Lab that addresses space, biosafety and biocontainment needs.*
- *Develop and fund marketing and advocacy position, graphic design support, and client outreach and education position.*
- *Support applied research and implementation of knowledge in food animal behavior, welfare, medicine and surgery.*
- *Establish international opportunities (China, Brazil, others) that support domestic food animal production.*
- *Develop a systemic approach to acquire and evaluate diagnosis-intervention-outcome data in an evidence-based setting to benchmark productivity metrics with health or disease status.*

Goal 2: Become leaders in One Health/Translational Medicine Research

- *Team-led processes to identify, develop and respond to “One Health” issues involving food animal production medicine*
- *Become an opinion leader in food animal Antimicrobial Stewardship and Antimicrobial Resistance research*
- *Identify individual(s) to seek and participate in “One Health” discussions where research priorities, resource allocation or public policy is discussed.*
- *Identify individual(s) to lead efforts for evidence-based, whole-system decisions affecting animal production, health, welfare and the environment through implementation of innovative technologies, data management and the development of precision agriculture tools and strategies.*
- *Identify individual(s) to lead efforts in Population Ecology, Bioinformatics and Mathematical Modeling.*
- *Expand available graduate programs and spaces to accommodate students.*
- *Expand the certificate and graduate programs in VDPAM.*

Subgoal 2.1: Be a leader in research that has economic impact on the state and national animal agriculture

- *Hire additional poultry, beef, swine and dairy faculty with research focus to grow Iowa animal agriculture.*
- *Hire a molecular epidemiologist.*
- *Hire a specialist in mycoplasmaology.*
- *Foster external support and advocacy for VDPAM through collaborations with Grow Iowa Ag and other allied initiatives*
- *Expand food animal infectious disease ecology research.*
- *Develop a Health Information Management System for VDL and syndromic data.*
- *Improve access to poultry research facilities and equipment.*

Goal 3: Become leaders in veterinary teaching and curriculum development

- *Actively market and facilitate continued financial support for the growth of the Swine Medicine Education Center and develop of additional species-based food animal centers.*
- *Document and leverage the benefits of recent innovations in delivery of curriculum and summer internship programs.*
- *Collaborate by providing swine production medicine and curriculum expertise internationally when it benefits Iowa*
- *Identify and develop new sustainable funding streams to support training for the next generation of food animal educators.*

Goal 4: Become the top veterinary college to grow and make a career

- *Expand Veterinary Field Services to meet current and future teaching demand and case load*
- *Continuously evaluate College and Department sustainability considering current demand for veterinarians, national trends in veterinary medical education, and potential enrollment and/or student quality.*
- *Increase VDPAM IT program development and software support.*
- *Support the new VDPAM + VCS Food Animal Hospital Model to meet the needs of Iowa effectively and efficiently.*
- *Develop a clinical version of the FISIP program available as an incentive to productive clinicians and researchers*

Goal 5: Be fiscally sustainable and capable of investing in the College's Future

- *Invest in or align with cost effective food-animal research facilities.*
- *Expand, with University support, OSPA options for clinical trials and expanded research collaborations with businesses*
- *Investigate alternative delivery routes for diagnostic services and teaching practices including satellite laboratories and telemedicine delivery*
- *Develop submission mechanisms and incentives that encourage clients to provide high quality, test ready cases.*
- *Investigate innovative ways to serve clients, especially those with their own diagnostic capacity, with services like quality control, provision of standardized reagents, and training on test performance.*