

FACULTY OF VETERINARY SCIENCES



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PROGRAMS

Degree courses: **DVM**, BSc and MSc in **Biology** (formerly Applied Zoology)
Accredited postgraduate professional courses: (4 semesters) veterinary toxicologist, veterinary expert in companion animals, veterinary expert in food safety, veterinary expert in infectious diseases and state veterinary medicine, veterinary expert in equine medicine, veterinary expert in poultry medicine, veterinary expert in ruminant medicine, veterinary expert in exotic animals, veterinary expert in porcine medicine, veterinary microbiologist, hippiatrist.
Doctoral Program: (3 years) area of science: **Veterinary Medicine**

FACULTY OF VETERINARY SCIENCES

The legal predecessor of the Faculty of Veterinary Science, established in 1787, was one of the first veterinary schools in Europe. The aim of the College is to train qualified veterinarians who can respond to constantly changing expectations. The Faculty has always been able to fulfil this mission excellently, because teaching, research, continuing education and consultation have always been considered inseparable within the Faculty's range of activities.

In the beginning, maintaining the health of the strategically important horse-stock stood in the forefront of veterinary science. In the past centuries the centre of interest gradually shifted to food-producing animals, and for the past 10-15 years companion animals have also become important. Food safety has recently become a major issue. Veterinary training in Hungary has been both nationally and internationally recognised for meeting the needs of the community.



IN THE CENTRE: QUALITY OF TEACHING

In Europe, the quality of teaching has become emphasized to a much greater extent than in the past. Parallel with the increased permeability of borders, the danger of spreading contagious diseases and the possibility of circulating unsafe food

Szent István University
Faculty of Veterinary Sciences

products have increased. Only a well-organised state veterinary service working with well-qualified veterinarians can guarantee proper veterinary care for the livestock, and epidemiologic and food safety for the country. One of the most important achievements of the EU member states is free movement of people and products; citizens of any member state can go to live and work in other member states. Members of the veterinary profession can, of course, also enjoy the benefits of free movement; uniform, high-level education is a necessary prerequisite to that free movement.

The faculty provides training in two courses in three different languages.

The Faculty's training program is internationally excellent. The total number of classes exceeds the number required by the EU.

Annually 100-120 state-subsidised Hungarian students are admitted to the institution. The majority of the students study for a degree in veterinary science, while the remainders pursue a BSc or Msc degree in Biology (formerly Applied Zoology).

The number of international students studying Veterinary Science in English or German keeps increasing. Currently, more than 600 foreign citizens from all over the world are studying at the Faculty in order to become veterinarians.

In order to ensure the quality of diplomas, the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education, EAEVE has established considerably strict accreditation conditions for training programs. Part of these conditions requires regular re-accreditation as a prerequisite to recognition of the equivalence of diplomas between institutions. Aware of the importance of accreditation, in 1994 the (then) University of Veterinary Science was among the first veterinary institutions in the EU, and the first one in the central Europe, to submit themselves to the EAEVE examination. Based on the documentation submitted for evaluation and according to the assessment of the visiting committee: "the level of veterinary training at the faculty is equal to good European standard". A veterinary diploma awarded in Budapest is equivalent to that of any Western European veterinary school. In 2007, the Faculty met the requirements of the international accreditation again.



clinic in operation entails extra costs for the university, but it has resulted in significant improvement of veterinary students' practical training.

CLINICS – IN THE FOREFRONT OF EUROPE

Opening the Large Animal Clinic in Üllő in 2001 was an important milestone in the fulfilment of the practical training accreditation conditions. Owing to the young experts working there, the clinic ranks among Europe's most modern large animal hospitals. The number of patients seen at the hospital has doubled since its opening. Keeping the



Dreams of having a similarly high-standard Small Animal Clinic on the site of the then vacant Clinic of Large Animal Surgery and Internal Medicine were realized in 2006. The Clinic of Internal Medicine, Clinic of Surgery, and Clinic of Reproduction, which had formerly been in three different places, along with their diagnostic laboratories were merged into the Small Animal Clinic complex, bringing all small animal services under one roof. Many of the clinical veterinarians have specialised in various fields and gained nation-wide reputations. The clinic is well-equipped with up-to-date instruments and enjoys a high case-load (40,000 cases annually) which continues to increase. These improved resources furnish an excellent foundation for the practical training of veterinary students. Extending the time of veterinary education from 10 to 11 semesters also serves to better prepare students in their practical training.



SCIENTIFIC BACKGROUND

High quality research is a prerequisite to high quality teaching. The quality of research at the Faculty is indicated by the number of successful grant applications, publications in prestigious journals, and successful books, as well as the demanding requirements of the Faculty. It is our Research and Development strategy to take an active part in EU research programs. Utilising the EU support system, we seek international co-operation to participate in complex multi-disciplinary



development processes. The integration of the EU not only needs the cooperation with other faculties, but also contributes to the education of well-qualified veterinarians. These experts, drawing from their medical and scientific, as well as legal and economic, knowledge will be able to play a decisive role in rural development and integration of agriculture within the EU. The scientific-professional background of veterinary work in the field of Food Hygiene and Food Safety is of particular importance. Integration created new perspectives both in rural development and in social communication. The Faculty of Veterinary Science - together with other faculties providing education in different fields - is becoming an important factor in more extensive professional and cultural developments

throughout the countryside. These services previously were supported by veterinarians solely through the infrastructure of state veterinary services and animal health care.

Eleven of our postgraduate professional courses have received accreditation and played a significant role in the course of EU accession.

PROFESSIONAL CULTURE

Research at the institution covers a vast array of fields within veterinary science, including molecular biology, veterinary physiology, anatomy, pathology, pharmacology, animal breeding and nutrition, food hygiene, animal hygiene, parasitology, microbiology, clinical sciences, etc. and several fields of biological sciences. The achievements of the academic staff are indicated by the large number of publications in international journals and the high impact factor of those publications. The Faculty has 79 scientifically qualified academic staff members, two of which are members of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and 14 hold a DSc (Doctor of Sciences) degree.



OUR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

Owing to the international character of the profession and to the fact that it is the only veterinary school in Hungary, the Faculty of Veterinary Science has traditionally had broad international professional relationships. The institution is an active member of the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education, EAEVE.



Apart from the numerous research co-operation agreements, the Faculty of Veterinary Science co-operates with more than thirty Western and Central European universities, two American universities (Purdue, Minnesota) and an Indian university (Bombay) under bilateral agreements; with seven universities in the Veterinary Network for Student and Staff Transfer (VetNEST); and some twenty universities under ERASMUS bilateral agreement.

STUDENT LIFE

Although the Faculty of Veterinary Science does not lure students with prospects of earning a degree without any effort, life here is not just about academic work and obtaining practical skills. Being a student at the Faculty means being part of a vibrant community. The Students' Research Association provides students with the opportunity to become immersed in a special field of the profession. Approximately one third of all the students take this opportunity to do research. Students are often actively involved in cultural events and entertainment like the traditional Freshmen's Ball, the spring events of Equus days and the annual Veterinary Students' Concert. The Faculty has a choir, a folk-dance group and several hobby groups.