



17-1-14

Re: Clinical Extramural Studies (“Seeing Practice”)

Dear Colleague,

I am very grateful to you for partnering with us as educators of the next generation of veterinarians. Clinical Extramural Studies (CEMS), previously known as “Seeing Practice”, has long been an essential element in the experience of veterinary students from UCD. As with many other schools worldwide, we realize that we have, to some extent, taken the important input of CEMS providers too much for granted in the past. As Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine, it is my aim to rectify this and to be more pro-active in communicating with the practices that accept our students.

CEMS is an integral part of our core curriculum, and accounts for a total of 40 European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) credits. Students are required to spend a total of 24 weeks on CEMS before they graduate, with the time being allocated between different areas of veterinary medicine. Students may commence their CEMS placements from the end of Semester 1 of Stage 3 of the MVB programme. An introductory guideline detailing the background and requirements of the module, along with the framework of learning outcomes is included under the CEMS icon/link on the UCD School of Veterinary Medicine website (www.ucd.ie/vetmed). In addition, further details of the MVB programme structure, with outlines of the modules taught in each stage, can be accessed on the same website (Click on MVB under the Education heading).

Each student is expected to comply with all regulations the practice may prescribe on such matters as dress code, hours of attendance, etc., and to read the Code of Professional Conduct of the VCI before commencing their placements. I fully expect each UCD Vet student to behave in an exemplary manner.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns about CEMS in general or about any particular student.

With very best wishes,

Michael Doherty
Dean of Veterinary Medicine, UCD