Memorandum

To: Drs. Linda Glaze and Dotty Cavender
University Curriculum Committee

From: Dr. Donna Angarano
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
College of Veterinary Medicine

Subject: Change in academic requirement

Date: March 12, 2008

As per my brief discussion with Dr. Cavender, a request for a change in the academic requirement for the DVM degree at the College of Veterinary Medicine has been sent to the University Academic Standards committee. It is my understanding that it has been approved and forwarded to the Provost office. I was unaware that it also needed to be sent to the University Curriculum Committee. I apologize for this oversight.

The Admissions and Standards committee at the College of Veterinary Medicine has recommended a change in the academic requirements for the professional degree program. The proposed requirements are attached.

The wording in the requirement has been changed from “may” to “will”, as per the recommendation of the academic standards committee.

The changes are reviewed below, and the modified policy follows. Please let me know if any additional information is needed. There are 2 parts to the change (in addition to changing “may” to “will”).

The first change is an addition: “Any student who receives a D in any course will be placed on academic probation. If the student receives a second D in the same calendar year or academic year, they will be required to withdraw from the College of Veterinary Medicine.” This is being added because of a very small number of students who keep their cumulative GPA above 2.25, but consistently earn a D in one course. Currently, they may slide through and not even be on probation until they earn multiple low grades one semester. However, they may be in serious academic danger because of the cumulative nature of the curriculum and the comprehensive national board examination. The addition of this clause will bring these
students to the attention of the Admissions and Standards committee sooner, and allow a discussion about outside factors, academic counseling, study skills, etc.

The second change is a clarification: "A student who makes a grade of F in any course may be required to withdraw from the College of Veterinary Medicine until such time as the course is offered again. Such a student may be required to repeat certain other courses in the curriculum for that term. If a student who is dismissed for academic reasons is re-admitted, they may be required to repeat additional courses as deemed necessary by the Admissions and Standards Committee. Not all students who are dismissed for academic reasons are re-admitted. This is decided on a case by case bases following a review by the Admissions and Standards Committee. Students who are re-admitted, usually must repeat all core courses taught in the semester or year they encountered academic difficulty.

Approval of these changes is requested from the University Academic Standards committee, the University Curriculum committee and the Provost office. Please contact me if there are any questions.

Thank you for your assistance.

Donna W. Angarano

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Approve _____ do not approve _____

AU Academic Standards Committee Date

Approve _____ do not approve _____

AU Curriculum Committee Date

Approve _____ do not approve _____

Provost Office Date
(Proposed changes shown)

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR DVM DEGREE

All applicants and students in the professional program are subject to the academic and disciplinary regulations of the College of Veterinary Medicine in addition to those of Auburn University.

Any student who earns less than a 2.25 GPA for any term will be placed on academic probation (academic warning). A student who fails to earn a 2.25 GPA in each of the succeeding two terms of enrollment may will be dropped from the rolls of the College of Veterinary Medicine for scholastic deficiency. In addition, a student who does not have a veterinary college cumulative average of 2.25 at the end of any academic year may will be required to withdraw from the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Any student who receives a D in any course will be placed on academic probation. If the student receives a second D in the same calendar year or academic year, they will be required to withdraw from the College of Veterinary Medicine.

A student will be removed from academic probation after two terms, assuming they have met the terms of probation.

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Clinical courses are unique in that the art and skills to be developed in them can be acquired only through full participation in the laboratories. Attendance in these courses is required except in case of illness or other extenuating circumstances as may be judged by the involved instructor. Grading in these clinical laboratory courses is primarily by subjective evaluation. When a course involves student rotation through several disciplines or sections, the student must receive a passing grade in each area before a passing grade can be given for the course.
(Proposed changes incorporated)

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March 7, 2008