Applications now being accepted for July 2015 start

Description of Program:

The Zoological Medicine service of the Department of Small Animal Medicine & Surgery, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia offers a 1 year specialty internship in zoological medicine with a major emphasis on exotic companion species. The program starts 15th July 2015 and ends 14th July 2016. This program is supervised at the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine by Drs. Stephen Divers and Joerg Mayer. The individual will be trained to a high level and upon completion will have attained a broad clinical base in preparation for applications to zoological residency programs.

This is a non-degree graduate student program leading to an official University Certificate of Internship. Tuition for this graduate program is $25/semester, 10 days of annual leave and 12 days of sick leave are available. The annual salary for 2015-2016 is $26,915. The intern is also provided with a limited budget of $2000/year for intern travel, conference attendance, and other professional development. A one-time application fee of $75 ($100 for international students) and tuition and student fees (approximately $3000/year) are the responsibility of the individual selected for the program. Proof of medical insurance coverage and proof of immunization for measles, mumps, rubella, chicken pox, tetanus, hepatitis B, and rabies are required. Parking fees (up to $480/year currently) and health insurance are the responsibility of the individual. Health insurance is offered through the UGA Graduate School at a reasonable rate. This coverage will be available beginning August 1, 2015. Each resident is responsible for securing his/her own health insurance that is effective through July 31, 2015. Acquisition of health insurance through the Graduate School is optional for U.S residents. Non-U.S. residents must participate in a mandatory health insurance program provided by the Graduate School (approximately $800/semester). Please visit the following website for additional information regarding insurance fees (http://www.hr.uga.edu/student-health-insurance). International applicants are required to provide 2 official, certified copies of their academic records from each institution of higher education attended. These records must include all course work. Photocopies are not acceptable. Separate proof of degree(s) is also required. All graduates of veterinary colleges not within the United States or Canada are considered international applicants regardless of citizenship. If the original language of the academic record is not English, a certified English translation must be attached to the original. Candidates must be fluent in written and spoken English. Foreign graduates whose primary language is not English MUST provide TOEFL scores (see http://www.toefl.org for details), AND the scores must not be more than 2 years old. Foreign applicants who have completed 1 year of academic study in the US can provide a university transcript in lieu of TOEFL scores. Foreign applicants must also consider application and processing time for visas well ahead of the start date. Offers to international applicants are contingent upon successful application for the appropriate visa.
**Requirements:**

All applicants must be licensed to practice veterinary medicine in their country of origin, and priority is given to those candidates that fulfill the following:

1) 1-2 years of practice experience in domestic animal, exotic, zoo or aquatic animal medicine, or completion of a 1-year small animal rotating internship. General clinical competency is essential.

2) Previous veterinary experience at a US institution with a reference from the supervising veterinarian (e.g. externships at US veterinary hospitals, zoos, aquaria, or private practices).

3) Excellent academic record with previous research experience and veterinary publications. (Submission of a class rank helps in the evaluation of non-US veterinary graduates).

The intern will be 100% dedicated to the zoological medicine service, within a new state-of-the-art Veterinary Teaching Hospital (including separate avian, reptile/amphibian, small mammal and wildlife wards; digital radiography, fluoroscopy, 3T MRI, 64 slice CT, diagnostic/surgical endoscopy, etc.). The majority of the clinical work will involve privately owned exotic pets, although involvement with wildlife and local zoo/nature centers is likely. The annual hospital and field caseload per house officer is approx. 500 cases/yr. The internship emphasizes clinical training in the principles of zoological medicine and surgery, and the species distribution is approximately: 45% avian, 40% mammals, 14% reptiles/amphibians, and 1% fish/invertebrates. In addition to a supervising on-clinic faculty, resident, and two technicians, the intern is aided by 2-4 senior veterinary students on 3-week elective rotations. Specialists from all recognized disciplines are available for consultation and an extensive support infrastructure, typical of a veterinary college, is available. The intern is encouraged to attend and present at a national or international conference during the year, as well as attend lectures or seminars in the College of Veterinary Medicine or on the university campus.

The intern will work under the supervision of senior faculty members and service responsibilities include (1) participation in the daily activities of the medical service of the hospital including primary case responsibilities and case rounds; (2) participation in visits to Bear Hollow Wildlife Trail, and Sandy Creek Nature Reserve, and other local or regional centers; (3) providing assistance in instruction and supervision of veterinary students assigned to the zoological medicine service; (4) provision of emergency weekend and night-time back-up for exotic species admitted by the small animal and large animal emergency interns within the teaching hospital (on a rotating basis with the other zoological medicine house officers; (5) presentation of a seminar to the College during the year, and active participation in UGA-aquarium rounds, and zoological journal club/didactic rounds.

In addition to clinical training, exposure to investigative approaches and publication is an essential component of the program, and the intern is expected to produce at least one peer reviewed publication during their program year.

The successful candidate will be licensed to practice within the College of Veterinary Medicine by virtue of a faculty license. The faculty license permits veterinarians from non-AVA (American Veterinary Medical Association) accredited vet schools to practice within the residency program of the hospital, and may be obtained without examination. [To obtain a regular Georgia state license, one must be a graduate of an AVMA-accredited institution or have completed the requirements of the ECFVG (Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates, https://www.avma.org/ProfessionalDevelopment/Education/Foreign/Pages/default.aspx) program of the AVMA, and take the Georgia State Board examination. The internship cannot be used to satisfy the clinical evaluation portion of the ECFVG because of the licensure requirements.]

Applications must include (1) a letter of application including telephone and email contact details, (2) a curriculum vitae, (3) and three letters of reference. International applicants must also submit TOEFL scores and university transcripts. All materials should be mailed to Ivy Blackwell (Zoological
Medicine Internship), Dept. of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia, 501 DW Brooks Drive, Athens, GA 30602, USA. The deadline for full consideration is January 5th 2015; however, the position will remain open until filled. The status of the position and further information can be obtained by contacting Ivy Blackwell on 1-706-542-8121 or ivyb@uga.edu.