MINUTES
Ventura College Veterinary Technology Program Advisory Committee Meeting
April 7, 2026

In Attendance
Mckenzie Rasmussen-Hagerty, DVM
Ann Welton, DVM
Felicia Duenas, Program Dean
Michelle Anderson, RVT
Tamera Kilbourn, RVT
Sharon Schieltz, RVT
Tracy Darling, RVT
Kathy Jonokuchi, DVM
Deena Case, PhD

Absent
Janis Shinkawa, DVM
Dorothy Farias, Ed. D.
Cait Zacha, DVM
Alex Flores
John Marquez
Jill Muraoka Lim, DVM
Ian Holsworth, BVSc, DACVS, Diplomate ACVS
Christina Sisk, DVM
Patrick Connolly, DVM
Heather Hartman, Current Student
Stephanie Hernandez, RVT (graduate cohort #1)

The meeting agenda was distributed via email on 3/27/2026.

Welcome, Introductions and Voting
Dr. Welton began the meeting at 5:20pm.
Dr. Welton then welcomed everyone to the Ventura College Veterinary Technology Advisory Committee meeting. Members and guests introduced themselves and gave their credentials.

Advisory Committee
The purpose, role and duties of the advisory committee members was explained and discussed.

Program Update and Announcements

- The program is still actively looking for full-time faculty, but it has been difficult filling the position. It was explained that the program needs a full-time director and full-time faculty although at this time two part-time instructors (Dr. Rasmussen & Dr. Welton) fill the director position. The program is continuing the search for a DVM and will also be searching for an RVT to fill the position.
- Faculty discussed the events at the AVTE (Association of Vet Tech Educators) conference last year and that they would all be going again this August.
- Student enrollment data: Cohort 4 graduated in December with 17 students, cohort 5 will be graduating in May with 17 students, and cohort 6 started last Fall with 24 students and now have 22 and will graduate in May 2027. Twenty-four students will be accepted into Cohort 7 starting August 2026 and graduating May 2028.
- Admissions Criteria update-Assembly Bill 1891 permits California Colleges Allied Health Programs to utilize multicriteria screening in the admission process. This new screening will begin for students admitted to the program in Fall 2027. Using this multicriteria screening will likely set up students to be more successful. All prerequisites must be completed prior to the Spring semester.
- The committee were given the list (attached)of the proposed criteria rubric and asked to read and give us feedback at a later date. The application will be online, and various categories will be evaluated by separate groups at the college, such as A&R, counseling, and faculty.
- Internship updates: the program is looking for ways to improve student and employer experiences during the student's internship. Tamara asked if there is any criteria for the clinics that host our interns. The internship sites must be willing to host an intern as well as train the students in their required skills.
- Students from the newest cohort had a challenging time finding a paid internship site this semester and about half are doing their internship unpaid. Students have a tough time contacting possible internship sites so there was a discussion about the students applying in person instead of relying on online services.
- Dr. Rasmussen asked the committee what the clinics might need from the program and more training on the required skills, and better communication were mentioned. The goal of the program is to elevate the internship experience by having them learn in the clinics like they are learning in school. It was discussed that interns need to be initiative-

taking about learning/practicing skills. Presenting at the SBVVMA meetings on the importance of our internship program was discussed.

- Curriculum updates: V64 (Veterinary Office Procedures) will contain more pharmacology instruction and will now be called Veterinary Pharmacology & Office Procedures. The program is refining small animal medicine disease subject matter throughout the curriculum.
- As discussed in the last meeting, the college is starting a pre-vet associate's degree (animal Science degree for transfer) in spring 2027. There will be an option to transfer to Cal State Pomona to complete a 4-year degree.
- VTNE updates-7 out of 9 passed that took the test (13 graduates) from cohort 3 which is about where we have been with previous cohorts. Types of VTNE questions were discussed. Not everyone that graduates takes the test, and we do not know the reasons for this. The college may be opening up VTNE prep class to the public
- Program challenges and needs were discussed for the upcoming year. The most pressing need is hiring faculty and a full-time director.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm by Dr. Welton and she thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and being a part of the Veterinary Technology Program Advisory Committee. Next scheduled meeting will be October 2026.