MINUTES
Ventura College Veterinary Technology Program Advisory Committee Meeting
October 13, 2025

In Attendance
Mckenzie Rasmussen-Hagerty, DVM
Ann Welton, DVM
Felicia Duenas, Program Dean
Christina Sisk, DVM
Michelle Anderson, RVT
Patrick Connolly, DVM
Tamera Kilbourn, RVT
Sharon Schieltz, RVT
Tracy Darling, RVT
Kathy Jonokuchi, DVM
Heather Hartman, Current Student
Stephanie Hernandez, RVT (graduate cohort #1)
Dr. Gregory Anderson, VP, Academic Affairs/Student Learning, Guest

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

The meeting agenda was distributed via email on 10/7/2025.

Welcome, Introductions and Voting
Dr. Welton began the meeting at 5:12pm.
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. Dr. Rassmussen 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 accrediting body would prefer one full-time person but allows two part-time people for the director's position. The program is searching for a DVM.
- Student enrollment data-Cohort 6 started this Fall with 24 students, and cohorts 4 & 5 have 18 students. Cohort four will be graduating this December and with the new compressed schedule, cohort #5 will graduate in May 2026.
- Attrition and the lottery were discussed. Dr. Connelly asked the reason most students left the program each semester. Karen answered because she maintains the census. She said that students either have to leave because they have failed a class or for personal reasons. She also said that having the students complete the prerequisites before admittance to the program has helped.
- Admissions Criteria update-Due to an Assembly Bill 1891 which permits California Colleges Allied Health Programs to utilize multicriteria screening in the admission process. The program will be deciding on our criteria before applications are due. Dr. Anderson suggested meeting with the EMT program to get ideas on what might work because they have already started making changes in their process. Dr. Rasmussen told the committee that the program will need their input on the criteria that will be used to admit students.
- Dr. Welton talked about the new internship protocol. All cohorts will be enrolled in internships each semester, except their very first, so they can get practical skills throughout their tenure in the program.
- Curriculum updates included a new calculation software program, changes in class V64 to include more pharmacology and V65 to refine coverage of small animal medicine diseases.
- It was announced that the college will have a new degree-Pre-Vet associate degree (Animal Science degree for transfer) which will use existing Vet Tech classes and add two new courses to the Ag department. There will be an option to transfer to Cal State Pomona to complete a 4-year degree.
- VTNE updates-Formal passing rates are not available at this time because the reporting schedule has been changed to yearly. The program is considering a study buddy system to support future graduates

taking the VTNE but still need to talk to past students that might want to be mentors.

- Mentorship and Vet Tech clubs/socialization opportunities have been difficult because of the cohort style of the program. Another issue is that many of our students work full-time and are taking a full course load.
- Marketing efforts continue with an Open House with guest panelists in November and a marketing film with student and faculty interviews.
- 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 6:08pm 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 April 2025.