E-Board Updates:

We have reached the season of giving thanks! During this past month your e-board has been working diligently to keep improving APVMA. The president has been meeting with Virginia-Maryland to figure out last minute details for symposium registration and tying up loose ends. The vice president has been currently reaching out to new organizations while introducing them to who we are as The APVMA in order to try and form a relationship and partner basis. The treasurer has been helping clubs whose registrations are currently incomplete and organizing our financial standing. The secretary has been communicating with different vets and clubs to be featured in the newsletter as well as helping out with the new APVMA Delegate Program. The webmaster has been continuing to post and monitoring out accounts.
A Letter from Our President

Dear Friends,

This is finally the month that all of our loose ends are coming together. First and foremost, symposium registration is here this month! The registration application will go live on the 4th of November. When we receive the link for the website it will be published to our APVMA website, so be on the lookout. Just a reminder, this year’s symposium will be held at Virginia-Maryland on February 28th-29th.

Secondly, we have three candidates for our APVMA advisory positions. They are Dr. Cord Brundage of Cal Poly Pomona, Dr. Shweta Trivedi of NC State, and Dr. Jay Kyle. They are all fantastic candidates that bring a wealth of leadership experience with them. Us officers will be getting to know them over the next couple months before we decide who will join our team. But we want to hear from you! Have you had any personal experiences with any of these phenomenal advisors? If so send me an email at americanpvmapresident@gmail.com and let us know why you think they should join our team.

In October I spent many evenings meeting with your Pre-Vet Clubs from Minnesota to North Carolina. I have enjoyed getting to know you all and seeing what your clubs have been doing. If you would like me to speak at your club’s meeting please let me know, and I’d be happy to accommodate.

Before I close, I hope that everyone made it through midterms unscathed, or at least only slightly bruised, and I cannot wait to see you all at Symposium in February!

Best Wishes,

Sam
APVMA DELEGATE WANTED!
Do you know a leader within your club that would be interested in putting their skills to the test on a national level? Beginning this year, the APVMA is starting an all new delegate program.

What's in it for you?
- A National Leadership Title
- A Discounted Symposium Registration Rate
- An Amazing Opportunity for Leadership Experience
- Providing your Club with a Voice on the National Level
- Recognition at the National Symposium
- Offer Topics and Ideas for what you want to see at the Symposium
- Get your Foot in the Door for APVMA Executive Board Positions

What are we looking for from you?
- One Delegate to Represent each Pre-Vet Club
- A leader and game-changer who can get information out about the APVMA
- Someone who will check in regularly and report back to their APVMA Executive
- Someone with innovative ideas about the future of APVMA
- A good communicator who can work with representatives from other clubs

Want More Details?
Email President Sam Johnson at americanpvmapresident@gmail.com
Hello Everyone, we are so sorry about all the delays on information on National Symposium. Virginia Maryland will be releasing a link regarding all information on National Symposium Monday, November 4th. We realize that registration opens on the 4th, but the information will be released in the morning and registration will be open in the afternoon. We are sorry for any inconveniences this may cause.

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Scholarship Applications are OPEN NOW!!

Click here to apply!
I never really knew what I wanted to be when I grew up. My dad had a PhD, my mom a Master's degree, and I loved school and learning things, so I figured I would get some kind of graduate/professional degree. One of my assistant Boy Scoutmasters was a veterinarian, so I asked if I could come to his clinic and see what it was like in the summer after my freshman year of high school. I almost passed out watching my first spay but, after that, it seemed interesting.

We only had indoor/outdoor cats growing up, and, as far as I know, coyotes or the wild world got all of them before they could get sick. We obtained a dog when I was ~10, but she was healthy. My mom claims she owned a dog which lived to be 20 years old with no veterinary care when she was younger, so we weren't the most proactive with respect to medical care for our cockapoo. So I had no experience encountering veterinarians as a pet owner. This was the mid-90s, and the expectations for number of hours of animal work for entry into veterinary school were either nonexistent or much lower compared to the incredibly high expectations for today's applicant.

My mom and I toured all the west coast colleges that had vet schools as well as colleges without vet schools on the coast the summer before my junior year in high school. When I visited Washington State University, they were very welcoming. They had an Honors Vet Program. If you were accepted into the university's Honors program, you could apply for the Honors Vet Program. It was a 2-year program with a prescribed curriculum, at the end of which, assuming you kept a high GPA, you were automatically admitted to their vet school. They accepted 8 students each year and this seemed fantastic to me- get through school in 6 years instead of 8!

I was enrolled in the Los Angeles public school system, which wasn't exactly a paragon of safety and learning at the time. I found out that some universities would accept students from their junior year of high school. So I applied to WSU as a junior, got accepted, so went to college and didn't complete high school- I'm a high school dropout! I also got accepted into the Honors Vet Program, which allowed me to graduate from vet school at the age of 22.
During vet school, I found out about internships. More learning? Fantastic! I became interested in surgery during my third year, and was keen on becoming a specialist surgeon. I applied to a handful of small animal internships (not a wise move- I’d suggest applying to many!) and got accepted at a private practice in southern California. Then I applied for surgery residencies and did not get accepted. Fortunately, there were two anesthesia residency programs which had not matched and were open. I applied to them, thinking, “I'll do anesthesia for 2 years and be a better candidate for a surgery residency!” (Back then, some residencies were 2 years long- almost all now are 3+ years).

I was accepted for an anesthesia residency and ended up loving it! I decided to go into academia because I enjoy teaching (I first started teaching martial arts when I was 15), I developed a joy of doing research, and enjoyed participating in a thriving, collaborative atmosphere. I’ve continued to love working as an anesthesiologist in academia. I’ve been able to learn so many things- how to do research well, how to be a better teacher, how to mentor others, etc. It's a wonderful quality of life, where you can dictate your day, what projects you pursue, and how you do your job. I also enjoy living in small college towns, where everyone is interested in learning and improving themselves.

Since the end of 2018, I’ve been writing a blog called The Vetducator at www.vetducator.com. I’d been giving advice to dozens of undergraduate students, vet students, interns, residents, and junior faculty members for years. But I started a blog because in order to reach thousands of readers, versus giving one-on-one advice (not nearly as efficient as a blog). I'm genuinely interested in helping people make their progress through veterinary medicine as successful as possible. I've written more than 150 posts as of October 2019- I have a lot to say on the subject and it's a lot of fun!

My advice to pre-vet students: You can probably be happy doing almost any profession. Find a career where you can have autonomy, keep learning, and a chance to interact with other (preferably nice) people. If your first route doesn’t turn out (as happened with me and surgery), find something else and figure out how to be happy. There’s no sense in banging your head against an unyielding wall. Go around the wall.
Did you know...a turkey is actually related to the T-Rex and Velociraptor? Researchers have found that the wishbone dates back to more than 150 million years ago to both meat-eating dinosaur groups.
President:
My name is Brad Kelly, and I am the president of the University of Minnesota Pre-Veterinary Club! I'm from Oakdale, Minnesota, and I'm a senior majoring in biology with a minor in animal science. I hope to one day have my own small animal practice and a specialization in surgery! I currently work as a senior student at the experimental surgery lab as a lab tech. I'm lucky enough to work with a couple of organizations that provide vet care in disadvantaged communities all around Minnesota, and I'm the pre-vet coordinator for the Student Initiative for Reservation Medicine. I also am on the animal welfare judging team here at the U! Recently, I got to do some work in Panama on a research internship where I was studying mangrove and coral communities! Outside of vet med and school work I like to longboard, listen to music, bike, lift, play video games, and hang out with friends and family.

Vice President:
Hello! My name is Mia Bauer and I am the vice president of the UMN Pre-Vet Club. At the U I study Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior and I am also minoring in Spanish. In terms of my interests in veterinary medicine, I am fairly open to anything, but as of right now I have an interest in wildlife and exotic animal care. I also have some interest in avian medicine as a result of my time volunteering at the Raptor Center on the UMN St. Paul campus. When I take a break from my studies, I enjoy visiting my family back home in Milwaukee, WI, going on trail runs, cooking new recipes, and visiting as many parks as I can!

The UMN Pre-Veterinary club prides itself on being able to provide our members with as many diverse and engaging opportunities as possible! Every year we take a trip to the APVMA symposium, volunteer with the MN Harvest Horse Show, tour research labs on campus, visit the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, and more. We are really lucky to have a dedicated and Every month we have a speaker from a different area of vet med, and we have an animal visit as well!
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