

# VDPAM Operational Plan 2013–2018

(Updated and Approved 11-11-2015)

## **Vision:**

**The vision of VDPAM is to support the continual improvement of food animal agriculture and food supply veterinary medicine to benefit Iowa and the world.**

## **Mission:**

### **Serving Animal Agriculture by:**

- **Continually improving the curriculum and methods of teaching in the preeminent Food Supply Veterinary Medical Program.**
- **Providing timely, accurate, high-quality and comprehensive clinical and diagnostic services.**
- **Being globally recognized leaders in implementation of disease control practices, diagnostic services, enhanced food safety processes, and animal welfare programs.**
- **Continually improving food and fiber animal production by whole system analysis through acknowledgment of the interactions of disease, diet, environment, animal behavior, animal welfare, and humans.**
- **Leading evidence-based research initiatives in food animal diseases, animal behavior, animal welfare, food safety, risk assessment and modeling and transferring knowledge obtained between academia, practitioners, producers, and the public.**
- **Fostering a sustainable, proactive environment for service, teaching, outreach, and research.**
- **Establishing interdisciplinary teams to support One Health Medicine and address the complex animal health, public health, animal welfare, and production efficiency challenges.**

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### **Be a global Leader in One Health Medicine**

- *Team-led processes to identify, develop and respond to “One Health” issues involving food animal production medicine*
- *Individual(s) identified to seek and participate in “One Health” discussions where research priorities, resource allocation or public policy is discussed.*
- *Individual(s) identified to lead efforts for evidence-based, whole-system decisions affecting animal production, health, welfare and the environment through implementation of innovative technologies and data management.*
- *Individual(s) identified to lead efforts in Population Ecology, Bioinformatics and Mathematical Modeling.*

### **Be recognized as opinion leaders in clinical and diagnostic medicine**

- *Market the VDPAM novelty as a national and international asset.*
- *Develop and fund an active VDPAM marketing and advocacy position.*
- *Support applied research and prudent implementation of knowledge in food animal behavior, welfare, medicine and surgery.*
- *Establish international opportunities (China, Brazil, others) that support domestic food animal production.*
- *Develop a systemic approach to acquire and evaluate diagnosis-intervention-outcome data in an evidence-based setting to benchmark productivity metrics with health or disease status.*

### **Be a leader in research that has economic impact on the state and national animal agriculture**

- *Hire additional poultry, beef, swine and dairy faculty with research focus to grow Iowa animal agriculture.*
- *Expand the certificate and graduate programs in VDPAM.*
- *Invest in or align with a cost effective food-animal research facility.*
- *Hire a molecular epidemiologist.*
  - *Hire a specialist in mycoplasmaology.*
- *Support the stakeholder-led “Strengthening Iowa’s Animal Agriculture” initiative.*
- *Expand food animal infectious disease ecology research.*
- *Develop a Health Information Management System for VDL and syndromic data.*

### **Be recognized for our contributions to veterinary curriculum development and teaching**

- *Actively market and facilitate continued financial support for the growth of the Swine Medicine Education Center and investigate development of additional species-based food animal centers.*
- *Document and leverage the benefits of recent innovations in delivery of curriculum and summer internship programs.*
- *Collaborate by providing swine production medicine and curriculum expertise with a Swine Veterinary Consortium in China and elsewhere as opportunities emerge.*

### **Be a magnet for the best and brightest faculty, staff and students, by creating a workplace in which each and every employee and student can thrive professionally**

- *Build a state-of-the-art Veterinary Diagnostic Lab that addresses space, biosafety and biocontainment needs.*
- *Expand available graduate programs and spaces to accommodate students.*
- *Strategically evaluate College and the Department future sustainability with decreasing demand for veterinarians, increasing supply of veterinary medical education, and potential of reduced enrollment and/or student quality.*
- *Add more VDPAM IT program development support.*