



Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges

1101 Vermont Avenue NW • Suite 301 • Washington, DC • 20005-3536

TEL: 202/371-9195 • FAX: 202/842-0773 • www.aavmc.org

Veterinary Workforce Expansion Act

HOMELAND SECURITY PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE # 9

January 30, 2004; www.whitehouse.gov

“Provide **capacity building grants to colleges and schools of veterinary medicine**, public health, and agriculture that design higher education training programs for veterinarians in exotic animal diseases, epidemiology, and public health.”

“Provide **capacity-building grants** to universities for interdisciplinary degree programs that combine training in food sciences, agriculture sciences, medicine, **veterinary medicine**, epidemiology, microbiology, chemistry, engineering, and mathematics (statistical modeling) to prepare food defense professionals.”

ANIMAL HEALTH AT THE CROSSROADS

National Research Council of the National Academies; July 18, 2005

“**Build veterinary capacity** through both recruitment and preparation of additional veterinary graduates into careers in public, food systems, biomedical research, diagnostic laboratory investigation, pathology, epidemiology, ecosystem health, and food animal practice.”

“**Competitive grants** should be made available to scientists to upgrade equipment for animal disease research and **to construct and maintain government and university BSL-3 and BSL-3 Ag facilities** for livestock, poultry, and wildlife.”

“Federal agencies involved in biomedical research (both human and veterinary) should ... **fund new, competitive, comprehensive, and integrated animal health research programs** ... on the detection, diagnosis, and prevention of animal and zoonotic disease encompassing both animal and human hosts.”

CRITICAL NEEDS FOR RESEARCH IN VETERINARY SCIENCE

National Research Council of the National Academies; July 18, 2005

“**Additional veterinary researchers must be trained** to alleviate the demands and to meet societal needs for veterinary research. A **debt repayment initiative** similar to the NIH clinical research repayment program could address concerns about the large debt burden face by graduates of colleges of veterinary medicine.”

“Educate policy-makers in federal and state governments about the necessity of **additional facilities to train adequate veterinary researchers.**”

“Federal agencies must address the need for **financial support for the disciplines of veterinary research** that lack identifiable sources of federal funding despite their contributions to public health, comparative medicine, and animal health and welfare.”