



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

WCVM Standard Operating Procedure	Effective Date: January 2025
Student/ Industry Interaction Policy	

Purpose

This document outlines the principles and procedures related to interactions between WCVM students and industry and/or corporate entities. It is intended to provide guidance to ensure that students' interactions with representatives from industry and/or corporate entities are educational and enriching without undue influence or conflicts of interest.

Specifically, this is directed towards groups that would provide funding or support resources for educational or other opportunities for undergraduate veterinary students the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

Scope

This policy applies to all students registered in the D.V.M program at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan (hereby referred to as students)

This policy applies to all industry and corporate entities and their representatives, including manufacturers, servicers and/or vendors of pharmaceutical, medical and veterinary medical devices, supplies, commercial products, pet food and other animal feeds, and individual and corporate veterinary practices (hereby referred to as industry/corporations).

This policy applies to all activities taking place at the WCVM and/or sponsored by the WCVM. Given the possible nature of these activities these activities may be furthered regulated by additional policies (for example the STUDENT ORGANIZED EVENT policy).

Principles

DVM students need to learn to manage relationships with industry representatives, as veterinarians routinely interact with company reps and sales personnel and are responsible for making decisions about product purchase.

DVM students need to learn to manage relationships with veterinary and particularly corporate practices, as these represent a significant proportion of veterinary employers.

Recognizing that industry/corporations have an interest in increasing product sales and/or employee recruitment, interactions between industry/corporations and DVM students need to be structured such that students are not unduly influenced by industries or corporations.



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Interactions must not suggest that the WCVM promotes or prefers any particular product or entity over its competitors.

Policy

With certain defined WCVM sponsored exceptions such as Professional Day, all interactions between students and industry/corporations will be addressed through: the WCVSA, WCVSA-approved student clubs, class council or Student representatives as described below and the Office of the Associate Dean Academic.

Student representatives of industry/corporations: The position of student representative may be a paid position. Student representatives must share their affiliation with Associate Dean, Academic and sign an agreement describing the expectations of the representative role. Student representatives cannot promote a particular product, device, or service to other students

WCVSA approved student-run clubs: Industry-related and/or sponsored activities and events, such as presentations, are permitted but must have an educational focus, and cannot promote a particular product, device, service or company. Any industry-sponsored activities and events will be communicated with the Associate Dean, Academic office.

Sponsorships: Industry-related and/or sponsored activities and events, such as presentations, are permitted but must have an educational focus, and cannot promote a particular product, device, service or company -for examples of such see the STUDENT ORGANIZED EVENTS policy.

Financial contributions: Industry and industry representatives may provide financial contributions for non-educational student events or programs if the contribution does not name the event or a component of the event. Industry donors to such events will be recognized as sponsors of the event along with all other donors.

Non-monetary contributions: such as backpacks, suture kits, textbooks, and small items may have the sponsor logo or name on them but must not appear with other wording or logos that might reasonably imply that the WCVM endorses such materials or companies.

Support for Educational Conferences and Events: Financial or other support for students to attend educational conferences and events is allowable.

Pet Food: Provision of pet food at discounted rates for subsequent sale to students, staff and faculty is permitted. The money raised from pet food sales must be pooled with funding from other fundraising sources and not identified as arising from a particular company or product.

Student organized requests for funding or other considerations: If a club is soliciting funding from any outside source the WCVM Development and Alumni Relations Office must be consulted before the solicitation is done. Requests for funding from industry or donors must be professionally done. A formal letter on with the class, WCVSA or club logo should be submitted to the potential donor. If the industry then has a student representative this student should be consulted before a letter is submitted.



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Non-Compliance

Instances or concerns of non-compliance should be brought to the attention of the Associate Dean, Academic within the College of Veterinary Medicine.