



October 3, 2011

Dear Program Director and Veterinary Scholars:

I am delighted to inform you of a new award, the Merial Veterinary Scholar Research Award. This award will highlight and underscore the Merial Veterinary Scholar mission of exposing veterinary students to research and rewarding those that have excelled. Program Directors, please be sure that the 2011 veterinary scholars at your institutions receive this notification. The award will be based upon the following criteria:

- The Veterinary Scholar met the criteria to be selected as a summer scholar in-line with the program mission.
The mission of the Merial Veterinary Scholars Program (MVSP) is to provide an opportunity for veterinary schools to expose first and second year veterinary students to biomedical research through a scholar internship program. By providing a supportive research environment in an established laboratory together with seminars and discussion groups on careers in science, it is hoped that students will consider the pursuit of a career in biomedical research as one of their options after completing their veterinary degree.
- The Veterinary Scholar attended the summer symposium and presented their work in the form of a poster.
- The Veterinary Scholar completed the proposed project work plan by September 30th.
Individual projects should enable the student to formulate a testable hypothesis, identify specific objectives, conduct research, interpret data and present their findings in the form of an abstract and/or poster. Demonstration of the use of biomedical research skills in specialty fields (e.g. Pathology, Toxicology, Laboratory Animal Medicine, Pharmacology, Clinical, and Imaging) is desirable.
- The Veterinary Scholar applies for the award by the deadline of November 30th.
- The application will consist of (1) a write-up of the students work in manuscript format, (2) a letter from the Veterinary Scholar highlighting their experiences from the summer research and a commitment to attend the next year summer symposium to present their work, (3) a letter of recommendation from the Principle Investigator who mentored the student during the summer, and (4) a letter of recommendation from the Program Director.

The award will be presented to the recipient at the following year summer symposium.

The award will be:

- A cash award of \$1500.
- A plaque to recognize the recipient.
- A travel stipend (amount to be determined) to attend the next year summer symposium and present their work along with the finalists for the Merial-AAVMC Excellence in Research Award. This will be a 12 minute PowerPoint presentation at the summer symposium.
- Recognition in the Merial-NIH National Veterinary Scholars Symposium Program.

Please send applications by November 30, 2011, as an electronic copy in PDF format to Dr. Joseph Rosentel at joseph.rosentel@merial.com. Submissions will not be accepted by hard copy.

Best regards,

Roberto Alva DVM, MS, PhD
Senior Director, Clinical R&D
Merial, a SANOFI company
roberto.alva@merial.com

Roberto Alva

Joseph K. Rosentel, MS, DVM, PhD
Director, Pharmaceutical R&D Projects
Merial, a SANOFI company
joseph.rosentel@merial.com

Joe Rosentel

cc: Dr. Ellen de Brabander
Global Head of R&D
And Chief Scientific Officer
Merial, a SANOFI company