

## **Equine Veterinary Curriculum Review**

### **What are the strengths, weaknesses, gaps, and redundancies in the CSU equine curriculum**

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A survey was sent to large animal tracking students of CSU that have graduated in the last 5 years to evaluate their response to two main questions. There was a 31% response rate. The questions centered on the AAEP Core Competencies: business of veterinary medicine, client education and regulatory responsibilities, anesthesia, dentistry, examination, husbandry, medical knowledge, radiology, reproduction, surgery techniques. The first question asked was: How well did the CSU equine veterinary curriculum address the following areas? Answer options were: to much, just right, not enough. There were 4 of the 11 categories where more than 30% of the respondents felt that there was not enough information in the curriculum to make them feel confident in practice. Those categories were: business (49%), dentistry (32%), radiology (32%), and surgery (41%). The second question was: How well did the CSU equine veterinary curriculum provide you with practical skills in the following areas? Answer options were: excellent preparation, good preparation, moderately unprepared, severely unprepared. When the unprepared categories were combined there were 4 categories where greater than 40% of the students felt unprepared; business (62%), dentistry (43%), radiology (41%), and surgery (59%). The students were allowed to give responses of free text. We are currently evaluating our curriculum based upon these comments. To improve the curriculum, we have already outlined a two-week clinical rotation, beginning next May, focusing on these skills. We have also begun to provide basic laceration repair during normal two-week equine lameness and surgery rotations.