



University of Idaho

Idaho WOI (WI)/  
Caine Veterinary Teaching Center

STRATEGIC PLAN

**2010 - 2014**

# Idaho-WOI (WI)/Caine Veterinary Teaching Center

## STRATEGIC PLAN 2010-2014

### VISION STATEMENT

Improved health of and production by Idaho's food producing livestock

### MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to transfer science-based medical information and technology concerning animal, zoonotic, food safety, and related environmental issues, through education, research, public service, and outreach to veterinary students, veterinarians, animal owners, and the public, thereby effecting positive change in the livelihood of the people of Idaho and the region.

#### **Authority and Scope:**

The original Tri-State (Washington-Oregon-Idaho)(WOI) Veterinary Teaching Program was authorized in 1973 by the Idaho legislature. The Caine Veterinary Teaching Center (Caine Center) at Caldwell, an off-campus unit of the University of Idaho's Veterinary Science Department was opened in 1977, as a part of Idaho's contribution to the then WOI Regional Program in Veterinary Medicine.

The Caine Center serves primarily as a food animal referral hospital/teaching center where veterinary students from Washington State University and Oregon State University participates in two-to-four-week elective food animal production medicine rotations during their senior year of veterinary school.

The Program has undergone change since its inception; originally guaranteeing 60 Idaho resident students (15 per year) access to a veterinary medical education through a cooperative agreement with WSU, whereby students are excused from paying out-of-state tuition. It now provides only 44 students with the same. The Caine Center now resides in the Dept of Animal and Veterinary Science, UI's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Oregon dropped out of the cooperative program in 2005. Thus, the Program now involves only Idaho and Washington State University students. (WI Program).

The present WI Program is an AVMA-accredited veterinary medical program. Faculty members are specialized in virology, bacteriology, immunology, medicine, and surgery and hold joint appointments between the UI College of Agricultural and Life Sciences in the AVS Department and WI Regional Veterinary Medicine Program. The Veterinary

Pathology discipline was lost in 2005 when our board certified veterinary pathologist retired.

The Caine Center's service and diagnostic program is tied closely to the food animal production medicine teaching program which offers individual animal diagnosis and treatment plus disease outbreak investigation services to the veterinarians and livestock producers in Idaho. Live animal hospital cases referred from practicing veterinarians are used as teaching material as the case is worked up. Samples are often sent to the Caine Center's laboratories directly by veterinarians who need diagnostic help with disease problems.

The establishment of the original WOI Program motivated the development of a cooperative graduate program with Washington State University, allowing cross-listing of the WSU Veterinary Science graduate courses. Thus, UI students are able to enroll for coursework leading to the U of I Masters degree and to the WSU PhD degree programs through the University of Idaho. The cooperative graduate program has also enhanced research cooperation between WSU and UI faculty members.

Responsibility for the Caine Center programs, daily operations, supervision and leadership for the faculty and staff lies with a Teaching Program Coordinator who functions as a Unit Administrator under the administrative supervision of the Head of the AVS Department.

### Teaching:

A teaching-oriented faculty with a practical approach to clinical problem solving provide 1 to 4 week blocks of time devoted to general food animal medicine, dairy production medicine, reproduction/biotechnology, cow/calf management, feedlot medicine, sheep/lambing management, and small ruminant clinical medicine.

Disease agents, fluid therapy, drug treatment, nutrition, record keeping, and necropsy are emphasized in clinical skills and individual animal medicine instruction. Production medicine stresses record keeping and interpretation, investigational skills, animal well being, and environmental stress for beef cattle, dairy cattle and small ruminants.

Caine Center faculty provides summer internship opportunities for the AVS Department undergraduate program, especially designing them for the pre-veterinary students. They also provide a summer dairy and veterinary experiential learning program (IBVEP) for first and second year WSU veterinary students. One WOI Program faculty member stationed at Moscow serves as an advisor for pre-veterinary students, teaches an undergraduate veterinary science course and teaches in the second- and third-year instructional programs at the WSU College of Veterinary Medicine.

The Caine Center and AVS faculty also make use of the Caine Center facility to offer continuing education programs for veterinarians and livestock producers and the faculty themselves are involved in statewide producer educational programs.

On average, 65-75% of new Idaho resident graduates of the WOI (WI) Program are licensed to practice veterinary medicine in Idaho annually

### Research:

Examples of Nationally and Internationally acclaimed research done at the Caine Center include that done on cryptosporidiosis, anaplasmosis, neonatal calf diseases, fluid therapy, reproductive diseases of cattle and sheep, genetic control of ovine foot rot, EID (electronic identification) of beef cattle, Johne's disease in cattle, sheep and goats, and scrapie in sheep. A long collaboration with the Idaho Department of Fish & Game on wildlife/domestic disease interaction has resulted in elucidation of the Pasteurellaceae group of organisms causing death in bighorn sheep. The faculty has secured significant outside funding to conduct their research. They have published numerous scientific papers. The research is dedicated primarily to that relevant to regional disease problems.

### Service/Outreach/Extension:

Caine Center faculty members also have responsibility for outreach activities, although none of them have official Extension appointments. Their regular activities of daily/regular interaction and consultation with livestock producers, commodity groups, veterinarians, UI Extension specialists, and others on a variety of topics including: production medicine, disease control or prevention, and reproductive problems are all service orientated. Several faculty members contribute material on a regular basis to lay publications and industry newsletters, and many are active in their state and national professional associations.

Through comprehensive diagnostic services, disease investigations, and clinical studies provided on a fee-for-service done in conjunction with the teaching program has significantly benefited many producers through the control of a number of economically devastating diseases.

## **Teaching and Learning**

### **Goal 1. Quality**

**Objective: Continue to provide and improve a quality, highly-rated and effective teaching program with an innovative and practical approach to clinical problem-solving.**

### Strategies:

- Seek out new teaching opportunities utilizing large food- animal production facilities that allow students actual hand-on experience not available in a formal educational facility. i.e. calving, lambing, kidding, milk sampling, surgery, etc,

- Utilize expertise of specialists in AVS and other departments to further expose students to basic specialized learning experiences.
- Incorporate local veterinary practitioners and agency specialists as part of the interdisciplinary instructional team.
- Expand partnerships with industry, state and local government agencies, and private foundations to encourage the funding of unique learning opportunities such as internships, preceptorships and residencies.

Performance Measures:

- Number of students in senior blocks
- Student evaluations
- Number of hours spent by students on producers' properties gaining hands' on experience
- Number of guest lecturers per block
- Contact hours with outside veterinarians

Benchmark:

- Having students for at least 80% of scheduled blocks
- Having at least 35% of the WSU Senior Class rotate through the Caine Center
- Each student averaging at least 12 hrs of direct hands-on experience on clients farms.
- At least one guest lecturer per block
- An average of 4 hrs of contact time per student with outside veterinarians.

**Scholarly and Creative Activity**

**Goal 1 Quality.**

**Objective: To provide the atmosphere, environment, encouragement, and time for faculty members to cultivate and nurture their scholarly and creative abilities.**

Strategies:

- Make sure that each faculty member has adequate time to pursue their research interests.
- Mentor new faculty and make sure they progress in an organized fashion towards reaching tenure and maximize their contribution to the Caine Program and the University of Idaho.
- Continue to nurture interaction between the AVS Dept/Moscow faculty, the Caine Center, and the WSU Veterinary School to promote collaboration on research projects, particularly for the newer faculty.
- Encourage faculty to seek out and apply for grants and contracts from all sources including federal and state government agencies, industry, private organizations and foundations.

Performance Measures:

- Time faculty members have to do research
- Amount of external funding.
- Published papers in peer-reviewed journals and abstracts that meet CALS performance goals for each faculty member

Benchmark:

- Each faculty should have at least 40 hrs per week devoted to research.
- Each faculty should have submitted the number of grants based on their research appointment and expectations.
- Each faculty member should meet expectations or better on their annual review. (2 papers/year based on 100% research.)

**Outreach and Service –**

**Goal 1. Quality**

**Objective: Endeavor to expand diagnostic laboratory and field services for the veterinarians and livestock producers in Idaho and the region.**

Strategies for Objective:

- Encourage the participation of faculty and staff in extension activities whenever possible.
- Encourage the participation of all faculty members in field disease investigations.
- Continue to monitor quality control in all laboratories. Pursue any questions or complaints concerning results until the situation is resolved.
- Encourage continuing education of laboratory staff in their given specialty.
- Partner with other University departments or units and state agencies to enhance service, improve quality, and expand diagnostic testing for zoonotic and communicable diseases of importance to Idaho and the Northwest region. Specifically, advocate for the hiring of a Veterinary Pathologist to be shared with the Idaho Department of Agriculture Veterinary Laboratory.
- Continuous updating of clinical and laboratory instrumentation as budgets allows to enhance diagnostic laboratory testing procedures and services for veterinarians and livestock producers in the region.
- Implement and keep updated a fee-for-service structure that helps provides adequate budgetary support for additional laboratory personnel – over and above those supported by the State – based on costs of diagnostics, other available funding, and industry need.
- Maintain support personnel adequate to ensure increased volume of activity can be efficiently serviced.

Performance Measures:

- Field investigation numbers.
- Laboratory diagnostic and live animal case accessions.
- Number of laboratory personnel that participate in continuing education
- Number of hours of continuing education accumulated by laboratory personnel.
- New techniques or equipment incorporated into laboratories protocols.

Benchmarks:

- Each faculty member to give at least one Extension producer presentation or demonstration (oral or written) per year.
- Each faculty member should do at least 3 field investigations/year.

- Laboratories diagnostic acquisitions should increase each year by at least 3% in normal economic times.
- Live cases acquisitions should remain steady or increase in normal economic times.
- Adequate case accessions to support 3 laboratory FTEs.