

**An interview with ANSC Major Elizabeth Petrosus regarding her
“Michigan State University Vetward Bound Enrichment Summer Program”
(Michigan, Summer 2012)**

Q: Where did you intern, and when?

During this past summer (2012) I participated in Michigan State University’s Vetward Bound Enrichment Summer Program.

Q: Was it a paid internship? What did you do there?

Yes, it was a paid internship. We were given \$50 each day we were there, but \$32 of it went to Owen Hall, which was the dormitory we lived in. This left us with \$18 a day for food, which doesn’t sound like much, but is doable with careful budgeting.

The Enrichment Summer Program (ESP) is an intensive internship for serious pre-vet students who are considered educationally, economically, or culturally disadvantaged. It is split into three different levels:

Level 1: This is the entry level, for students who are two or more years away from applying to vet school. Students take five different classes: Animal Science, Biology, Organic Chemistry, Physics, and GRE Math. The classes are not for credit, but to give an introduction so that taking the classes in undergrad will be easier. There are field trips that offer hands on experience with different animals. Level 1 takes more field trips than the other levels, and focuses mostly on large animals.

Level 2: This is the middle level, for students who are applying to vet school in the next academic year. Students take fewer classes than level 1. They spend most of their time in MSU's Vet Teaching Hospital. They shadow vet students, doing rotations on different services weekly. There is also a focus on writing a personal statement and GRE prep. Level 2's take some field trips, and present case studies weekly.

Level 3: This is the highest level, for students who have already been accepted into vet school. It is very similar to level 2. They spend most of their time in MSU's Vet Teaching Hospital. They shadow vet students, doing rotations on different services weekly. Level 3's take some field trips, and present case studies weekly.

Q: When did you apply for this internship?

I sent in the application in February 2012, but preparation for it began far before. The application includes getting an official transcript sent to MSU, 2 letters of recommendation, answering 2



essay questions, and filling out the online application. All materials had to be postmarked by March 1st.



Q: How long did the internship last?

The internship lasted seven weeks, from June 8th to July 27th.

Q: How did you learn about this opportunity?

I found out about this opportunity through a general email sent from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources to its students.

Q: Anything else you'd like to add about your experience?

This program is nationally funded, and well-known in the veterinary community. Just participating will strengthen students' vet school applications. On top of that, you gain experience working with animals, veterinarians, learning medical terms, preparing for the GRE and more. It is the best thing I have ever done and I highly recommend it to any qualifying pre-veterinary student. I honestly thought I had little to no chance of getting accepted, so my advice is to just apply!

For more information, click on this link:

<http://cvm.msu.edu/student-information/cvm-undergraduate-programs/enrichment-summer-program>

Q: What is your area of interest as an ANSC major?

Large or mixed animal veterinary

Q: So, what are your plans when you graduate?

After graduation from UConn, I plan on going to vet school. Eventually I want to be either a large or mixed animal veterinarian, possibly owning my own practice.

Q: If someone has questions, can they contact you regarding your internship experience?

Sure! I can be reached at Elizabeth.Petrosus@uconn.edu