Detailed Program Description for ACVD Website

1. Program name and location:

*Tufts University Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine*

200 Westboro Road, 01536 North Grafton, MA, US

*Program for Dr. Elizabeth Falk.*

2. Is the program currently on ACVD Probation? If yes, please describe the reasons for probation, what is being done to correct them and when the program is scheduled to be off probation?

Yes. According to the letter sent by Dr. Anthea Schick, Chair of the ACVD Education Committee (dated March 17, 2014), the residency program at Tufts will be on probation for the coming 3 years. The main conditions set by the Education Committee, were:

1. Tufts dermatology residency program would be an "individualized" program meaning that each additional resident in the future would require submission of an individual program description.
2. Requirement of an every 6 month evaluation during the next 3 years.
3. Change in the residency coordinator.
4. Case report logs for each resident at Tufts will need to be submitted on a six month basis throughout the residency or remaining portions of the residency

3. Mentor:

*Name: Lluis Ferrer (Residency Coordinator)*

1. Years in ACVD: ECVD Diplomate since 1994
2. Years as Mentor: First resident was Dr. Laura Ordeix (1998-2001, passed boards in 2001). Since 1998 has been mentoring residents.

*Dr. Andrea Lam, DVM, DACVD, the second dermatologist in the service, will also participate in the education of the resident.*

4. Specific requirements for applying to the program:
DVM or equivalent degree. Have completed a one-year internship or satisfactory practice equivalency. Must acquire licensure to practice in the State of Massachusetts or be included in the institutional license of Tufts University. Must meet ethical and moral standing in the profession.

5. Length of residency in years:

Three years.

6. Is a Master’s degree or PhD required?

No, it is not.

7. When the residency was first offered?

2013. This is a new program.

8. Has it been continuous since then?

Yes.

9. How many residents have been accepted into the program since inception?

Dr. Falk is the first resident in the program.

How many of these have become board certified dermatologists?

None. The program started in 2013.

10. What is the average annual dermatology caseload for the institution over the past 5 years?

The Dermatology Service was created in fall 2012. The caseload in 2013 was 2000. In 2014 the expected caseload is 2400. In the following years the caseload is expected to grow a bit, to reach 2800-3000 cases/year.

11. What is the average total caseload seen the entire residency?

7200 cases (average cases annually times the number of years of residency).
12. On average, how many new patients, rechecks and consults does the program see per year? (give these in actual numbers of cases)

   New cases: 800
   Rechecks: 1400
   Consults: 200

13. On average, what percentage of the program’s cases are dogs and cats?

   Dogs 80%   Cats 18%

14. On average, how many exotic, equine and farm animal cases does the program see per year?

   Exotics: 10   Equine: 24   Farm animals: 6

15. What percentage of time is the mentor in clinics with the resident while the resident is seeing cases during the resident’s first year:

   100%, second: 95% and third: 95%?

   (This means that the mentor is either physically seeing patients with the resident or can be contacted by phone and available to see the case within one hour of being called.)

16. Does the program have access to other specialists? If so, please list:

   Dr. Andrea Lam, DVM, DACVD; Clinical Assistant Professor is the Second Dermatology of the Service. She will also participate in the education of the resident.

   Over 60 boarded specialists work at the Foster Hospital for Small Animals, the Hospital for Large Animals and Tufts VETS. The list of specialists include diplomates in Internal Medicine (Small and Large Animals), Surgery, Oncology (Med and Rad), Radiology and Diagnostic Imaging, Neurology, Ophtalmology, Pathology (Anatomic and Clinical), Parasitology, Clinical Nutrition, Dentistry, Behaviour, Emergency and Critical Care, Anesthesia, Cardiology, Zoological Companion Animal Medicine, Theriogenology.
17. Please describe your library access:

The resident has full access to the Webster Library [http://www.library.tufts.edu/vet/]. The library provides access to books, journals and audio-visual materials—in analog and digital formats—in the fields of medicine and surgery for large, small and exotic animals; animal welfare; wildlife diseases and ecology; zoonotic diseases; conservation medicine; laboratory animal science, and veterinary practice management. All the journals considered necessary or useful for the resident training are accessible at the Webster Library. The Tufts University Network offers access to electronic journals.

The resident, as member of the Tufts community, will have access to the extensive collections of books and journals of the School of Medicine, School of Nutrition and School of Dental medicine of Tufts University, among others.

18. Does the program have statistical support for their residents’ research projects?

Yes. The Department of Clinical Sciences offers statistical support for residents, PhD students and Faculty.

19. Does the program have direct access to any basic science or clinical science laboratories that the resident can use for research proposes? If yes, please describe the types of laboratories available and interactions that the resident may have with them.

The Grafton Campus of Tufts University where the resident will spend most of the time has large research facilities, including a P3 Biosafety Laboratory (New England Biosafety Laboratory). The resident will have access to the laboratories of the Department of Clinical Sciences, but also to the research facilities and laboratories belonging to the Departments of Biomedical Sciences and Infectious Diseases and Global Health. Tufts University has also some Core facilities for some transversal Technologies (DNA Sequencing).

20. How often do the residents and mentors have the following rounds? (For each type of rounds, please list how often they are held, how long each session is, and a detailed description of how they are conducted.)

a. Case rounds: Four times weekly. Discussion of clinical cases will take place at the end of the day. Rounds may last up to one hour.
b. Journal club: 3 times per month the resident will present journal articles (including skin biology, dermatopathology and clinical dermatology) and lead a discussion with the Dermatology Service, rotating students, intern and visitors. 1-2 hours of duration.

c. Histopathology training/rounds. Weekly, the Service of Dermatology and the two pathologists responsible for reading the skin biopsies will review slides using a multi-headed microscope and discuss similar cases and the clinicopathologic correlates.

d. Basic science learning. Book chapter review will be held 3 times per month in order to ensure that the resident gains a strong basic knowledge of structure and function, immunology, internal medicine, pharmacology, parasitology, bacteriology, mycology, virology, oncology and nutrition in both large and small domestic animal species. Textbooks will be supplied to the resident by Zoetis and by the Department of Clinical Sciences and will include the following: Skin Diseases of the Dog and Cat (Gross et al.), Muller & Kirk’s Small Animal Dermatology (Miller et al.), Large Animal Dermatology (Scott), Cellular & Molecular Immunology (Abbas), Fitzpatrick’s Dermatology in General Medicine (Fitzpatrick), Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat (Greene), and Canine and Feline Endocrinology and Reproduction (Nelson and Feldman). Additionally the resident will be required to attend Resident Pre-Congress Review Sessions planned by the program committees of NAVDF and ESVD-ECVD Congress.

In addition to the rounds, the resident will have other educational opportunities:

a. Weekly clinical sessions (Clinical CE), are run every Friday 8 am – 9 am, as a general CE for all members of the Department of Clinical Sciences.

b. Pathophysiology rounds take place every two weeks.

c. Once a month the resident will participate in the clinical sessions of the Tufts Medical School Department of Dermatology.

It is planned and budgeted the attendance to the following courses during the residency:
The resident will also benefit from the Tufts Resident Enhanced Veterinary Education and Academic Learning (REVEAL) Program. This program, which was developed through an NIH education grant, focuses on veterinary residents, with the goal of attracting veterinarians to academic and research careers. The program is designed to first create the desire to pursue research, and then to nurture candidates with strong mentoring, programs, and readily accessible research opportunities. The program includes:

1. Symposia on spontaneous animal models of human disease to provide greater interaction with researchers from other disciplines, and to increase opportunities for collaborative research;
2. A multi-function website to facilitate research including web-based courses on laboratory techniques and applied statistical methods;
3. An academic seminar series that includes topics to foster an interest in research and to facilitate research training;
4. Short-term introductory research electives;
5. Intensive research training electives; and
6. An active mentoring program.

For more information about the Tufts REVEAL Program please contact Dr. Lisa Freeman (lisa.freeman@tufts.edu).

21. Resident’s benefits: (Please give a general list of benefits and then whom a potential candidate should contact to get more specific information on salary and benefit packages)

In addition to the medical insurance other benefits are dental and vision coverage. Mrs Jennifer Ebert (jennifer.ebert@tufts.edu), Manager of the Department of Clinical Sciences, can be contacted for details.

22. Does the program allow the resident to attend the NAVDF (North American Veterinary Dermatology Forum) meeting annually?

Yes. The resident is expected to attend the NADVF annually and the World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology in Bordeaux 2016.

23. Does the program pay for the resident to attend the NAVDF meeting annually?
Yes. The registration and all the travel expenses are covered by the program.

24. Average number of days a resident will spend on clinics per month:

15 days.

25. Average number of days a resident will spend on non-clinical pursuits per month (not including Sundays or holidays):

7 days.

26. Does the resident have to take general medicine emergency duty

No. Tufts has a large Emergency and Critical Care Service that covers all emergencies. Occasionally the Dermatologists are called or paged for consultation about emergency cases but the resident will not be on duty.

27. Does the resident take Dermatology emergency duty? If so how often:

No. Tufts has a large Emergency and Critical Care Service that covers all emergencies. Occasionally the Dermatologists are called or paged for consultation about dermatologic emergency cases but the residents will not be on duty and she is not expected to be physically present.

28. Is time allotted for externships in other subspecialties or at other dermatology practices? If so explain:

Yes. We have allocated three weeks per year for externships (9 weeks in total). The place of the externship will be decided according to the educational needs of the resident. We are considering visiting a dermatologist service with high equine caseload or a dermatologist service with high caseload of exotic animals.

29. How much time is allotted off clinics for board preparation?

No set time is allotted for board preparation. The residency activities are designed to help prepare the resident for their study period which will take place following completion of the residency.
30. How much time is allotted to carry out a research project (grant writing, data collection, paper preparation) during the residency (please report in number of weeks)?

12 weeks.

31. What are the other responsibilities/duties of the resident?

Aside from case responsibility, which on clinics and preparing/leading the Journal Clubs, the resident will also be required to supervise and instruct senior veterinary students during their clinical rotations and lead rounds discussions daily. Other teaching duties include the preparation of one, 2-hour didactic dermatology lecture for the sophomore veterinary class each year and the participation as an co-instructor in two, 3-hour junior and sophomore dermatology techniques and cytology laboratories.

32. How many residents has the program had over the past 10 years?

None. This is a completely new program.

33. How many/what percentage of the above residents (question 31) passed credentials on the
   a. First submission
   b. Second submission
   c. Third submission or more
   d. Never passed credentials

None. This is a new program.

34. How many/what percentage of the above residents(question 31) sat boards for the first time
   a. The year they finished their residency
   b. One year after finishing their residency
   c. Two or more years after finishing
   d. They never took boards

None. This is a new program.

35. How many / what percentage of the above residents (question 31) passed the board exam on their
   a. First time taking the exam
   b. Second time taking the exam
   c. Third time or more taking the exam
d. Never passed

None. This is a new program.

36. Is your residency program reviewed by an outside committee at your university? If yes how often?

The Department of Clinical Sciences has a committee that evaluates twice a year the residency programs. The residents also has have to evaluate the program.

37. Please list the papers published by your last 5 residents.

This is a new program. Nevertheless, as an orientation, below are listed the papers published by my last residents as part of their residency projects. It is important to underline however that they were in a different program (ECVD approved program at the Autonomous University of Barcelona).

Dr. Laura Ordeix


Dr. Mar Bardagi


Dr. Giordana Zanna


Dr. Ivan Ravera


38. Names of your last 5 residents and whether they are willing to be contacted by potential residents:

Yes, they can be contacted: