

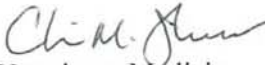


COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

February 20, 2015

To: Dr. George Flowers, Dean
Graduate School
Auburn University

Via: Dr. Calvin M. Johnson, Dean 
Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine

From: Dr. Frank F. Bartol 
Associate Dean, Research & Graduate Studies
Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine

Re: Proposed change in Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) Code

It has recently come to the attention of the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine (AU-CVM) that the CIP code(s) currently applied to the AU-CVM Biomedical Sciences (VBMS) graduate program is/are inappropriate. Problematically, CIP code 51.2501 (Veterinary Sciences/Veterinary Clinical Sciences, General), into which our graduate students are currently placed, is not a STEM-approved category. By consequence, international students are unable to take advantage of all visa options that might otherwise be available to them when assigned to a STEM-approved CIP category as recorded on their I-20 (visa) form. This situation places our international graduate students, in particular, at a distinct disadvantage professionally as they compete for jobs and transition into the workforce within the U.S.

For over a decade the AU-CVM has supported a single graduate program structure (Biomedical Sciences). Modern graduate education and training experiences offered through the Biomedical Sciences program at the AU-CVM encompass a breadth of life and biomedical science disciplines that extend well beyond the realm of 'veterinary-specific' domains, and embrace the 'one science, one-health' philosophy. The CIP code designation should reflect this accurately.

It is therefore proposed that the CIP code designation for the AU-CVM Biomedical Sciences graduate program be changed to 26.0102 (Biomedical Sciences, General). This CIP category is the most accurate descriptor of the program and is STEM-approved.

Thank you for your consideration of and assistance with facilitating this request.

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