

## **DRESS CODE**

### **Appropriate Attire:**

Although there is not an official university dress code, the veterinary students, faculty and staff represent both the college and the veterinary profession. As such, everyone should maintain a clean and professional appearance.

### **Laboratory Dress:**

Students should be in clean lab coats or coveralls. Those with long hair are requested to tie their hair back securely as a courtesy to fellow students when working in the dissection labs or with microscopes. Protective eyewear and/or gloves must be worn when designated by the supervising faculty member. Loose jewelry that might constitute a safety hazard should not be worn.

### **Clinical Dress:**

All health care providers, including students, are required to wear appropriate professional apparel in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and on Field Service calls. The appropriateness of the attire is determined, in part, by regulations concerning proper identification, infection control and safety. In addition, health care personnel recognize that medical personnel who project professional images through attention to the details of their appearance, instill confidence in their clients that they will provide the same careful attention to their animal's care. A client forms their impression of the hospital, students and clinicians within the first few minutes of their encounter and everyone should dress with this in mind. Finally, the Veterinary Teaching Hospital is a business, and inappropriate dress can adversely impact that business.

### ***Small Animal Clinic***

In any areas where client contact may occur, business professional attire is expected. T-shirts or blue jeans should not be worn. While some consider body piercings a fashion issue, in general they are not accepted as professional dress by the general public, and should be avoided to help place clients at ease. A clean white lab coat and the student ID badge should be worn. No open toe shoes or sandals are allowed in the clinics. There are no exceptions to this rule for anyone.

In areas where client contact is not expected, clothing should be neat and clean, in keeping with the accepted standards of comfort and convenience expressed by the majority, worn in accordance with normal standards; and appropriate for the activity.

Clothes should **never** be: ragged or unhemmed, excessively revealing (short skirts or shorts, midriff blouses, halter tops or low necklines), or presenting of an unkept appearance.

### ***Large Animal Clinic***

All students shall present a neat and clean appearance. In rounds or for outpatient examination of horses, students should wear clean coveralls, an identification badge, and clean shoes, (no open-toe shoes or sandals). A laboratory coat can be substituted for the coveralls during rounds.

On Food animal rotations students should wear clean coveralls, identification badges, clean shoes and clean rubber boots.

If a student accompanies a patient to necropsy, then a complete change of coveralls and thorough cleaning of footwear shall be done prior to return to the large animal hospital.

***Surgery and Surgery Laboratories***

Clean scrub suits (provided by Central supply for faculty and staff –students must supply their own) are to be worn in surgery. Coveralls or lab coats should be worn over the scrubs until entering the surgical suite. Once worn in the general hospital areas or outside of the VTH, scrubs need to be changed for clean scrubs before re-entering surgical suites. No long or fake finger nails are allowed. All finger rings, bracelets and dangling earrings must be removed.

**Individual rotations**

Dress Codes for particular rotations are outlined in the respective orientation material or syllabus for those rotations. If the faculty member in charge of a rotation thinks a student is dressed inappropriately, the student will be asked to change into clean scrubs and a lab-coat or coveralls.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT**

**The goal of this dress code is to encourage everyone to be neat, clean, safe and appropriately dressed for all activities. Compliance with the spirit of the code is expected.**

**July 2, 2002**