Background

• Stanford Class of 2014
• Major: Biology with Honors
• Started vet school the fall after graduating Stanford
• Currently in my 3rd year of vet school at Penn Vet
• Interested in a career in research and laboratory animal medicine
Path to vet school

• Before college:
  • Raised and showed Holstein calves with 4-H Club
  • Worked at an ice cream store throughout high school/beginning of college

• During college:
  • Completed (many) pre-recs for vet schools
  • Joined Stanford University Pre-Vet Club
  • Shadowed one summer in a small animal clinic
  • Research project and honors thesis in the lab of Dr. David Lyons at Stanford
Stats

• Roughly 3.6 GPA at time of application
• ~400 hours of veterinary experience
• 540+ hours of research experience
• ~1,700 hours of animal experience
Penn Vet

- About 125 students per class
- Ryan Hospital (small animal) located in the city of Philadelphia—very urban environment
- New Bolton Center (large animal hospital) about an hour away—rural campus
- High case load—particularly in emergency and large animal services
- First 2.5 years of school mainly in the city; the rest depends on your interests
General curriculum

• 1st and 2nd years are mainly classroom based
• First half of 3rd year is in the classroom. Start planning your 4th year.
• Second semester of 3rd year:
  • Large and Small Animal Blocks (combo of class and labs) → 8 weeks each
  • Can do one of the Blocks, both, or neither
  • If skipping one/both Blocks → “Early Entry:” either do externships or start clinical rotations (depending on space in the hospital)
• 4th year is completely clinical → rotations depend on interests and requirements for different tracks (Small Animal, Food Animal, Equine, Mixed)
Penn Vet: My Pros

• Research
  • Lots of research support
  • Located near medical school, so interesting MD – DVM collaboration

• Location
  • Food and culture everywhere! Diverse population
  • Don’t necessarily need a car—everything you need is within walking or trolley distance
  • Kennett Square (NBC) is a beautiful area

• High case load and wide variety of patients
Penn Vet: Cons

• Cost
  • Out of state tuition is high
  • City—cost of living tends to be higher

• Small and large animal hospitals are far apart

• Location
  • Living in a city comes with safety concerns, although West Philadelphia is very safe in general
Thanks for listening!

Images:

- https://c1.staticflickr.com/9/8429/7524391562_b4433866a3_b.jpg