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Tempust Project Student Exchange Report

From 7th of February to 6th of May 2016. I participated in a student exchange program at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Budapest, organized by the Tempus Eduvet program. Name of the Faculty is Szent István Egyetem, it was founded in 1878. and is located in the center of Pest, close to the main railway station in Szent Istvan street.

During these 90 days, I attended three practical trainings at the clinic for small animals. They were in the fields of surgery with orthopedics and ophthalmology, internal medicine and obstetrics. Each of these trainings lasted for a month, or more precisely for four or five weeks. In addition to these practices, I spent the last two weeks also at the clinic for large animals which is principally engaged in the treatment of horses and is located in the village Üllö around 30 kilometers from Budapest.

Classes at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Budapest take places through five and a half years, or through 11 semesters. For ten (winter and summer) semesters students attend classes, listen to lectures and exercises, pass their colloquia and examinations and during the 11th semester acquire and develop practical skills. Students are able to attend the practice for the 11th semester at their faculty in Hungary or anywhere abroad at private clinics. They are required to work for three weeks at both, small and large animal clinics as well for three weeks in slaughterhouses and veterinary inspection.

Campus of the Faculty is made out of a great number of buildings, divided by departments or subjects (from biology, anatomy to infectious diseases, etc..) and include amphitheatres, classrooms and practical rooms where students have theoretical and practical lectures. In addition, the campus contains a clinic for small animals, clinic for exotic and wild animals, a large library, cafeteria and sports hall with a gym.

Clinic for small animals contains a big reception, pharmacy, five ambulance rooms where vets meet up with patients, carry out inspections and controls, give out diagnosis or treatment plans; Facilities for diagnostics - Radiology, CT, ultrasound and endoscopy; three operating theaters with "scrub in" areas, of which two are located in the department of surgery, and one in the department of obstetrics; Department of Internal Medicine and the hospital, where the animals are recovering from operations and from where they are released from the clinic. Beside the above mentioned premises

clinic also contains separate rooms for surgeons, assistants and students on shifts, morning meeting rooms for each department where are all the cases and the course of their treatment are presented.



Campus of the Faculty of veterinary medicine in Budapest

Practical training in surgery, orthopedics and ophthalmology (08.02.-04.03.)

Practical training in surgery lasted four weeks, during which our mentor was dr. Miklós Pál Dunay, who is the main anesthesiologist at the Department of Surgery. Shifts lasted from 8.30am to 16pm every day and every week a new group of five to ten Hungarian and international students were on shift with us.

The working day began at 8.30am in the conference room where we would discuss the cases from previous day, the cases that are scheduled for that day and operations to be performed. After that, we would either help with preparing animals for surgeries, assist in the preparation of medicines, intubate animals and give premedication or go watch how vets perform CT, ultrasound, x-ray or endoscopic examinations. Before the operation itself, we have often had the opportunity to listen to veterinarians and their plans for future operations and discuss possible ways of treatment.

Operations were performed in two surgical rooms that are linked by the room in which the drugs are prepared, preoperative preparation is done and patients are anesthetized. In one surgical room operations were performed in the field of orthopedics by dr. Diószegi Zoltána, and in the second surgical room soft tissue surgery and ophthalmic surgery were done by dr. Tibor Németh, the Head of

the Department of Surgery. Each surgical room has a separate room for disinfection of staff in which are the autoclave, compresses, masks, caps and all the other equipment.

During the operations we observed different interventions and activities, while full-time students of the Faculty had an option to assist the surgeons. Most of my time I've spend in the orthopedic surgery room where I observed and assisted in the performance of non-sterile parts of the operation, such as adding gloves, sutures, switching on pump suction etc. The work day usually ended around 16h, sometimes 17h.

Practical training in internal medicine (07.03.-01.04.)

Practical training in internal medicine lasted four weeks, during which our mentor was dr. Viszi Zsuzsanna. Shifts lasted from 8am to 16pm every day, and here, as in surgery, each week a new group of five to ten students were on shift with us.

Department of Internal Medicine is divided into ambulance, diagnostics and intensive care. Ambulance implies an admission of the patient, taking the anamnesis from the owners, conducting clinical examination and sending patients for other diagnostic methods, if they are necessary. On different days of the week, doctors specialists would conduct consultations with the owners about the patients. I had the opportunity to attend several of these consultations with Dr. Máthé Ákos - specialists in Dermatology and Endocrinology, Dr. Ágnes Sterczer - specialists in gastroenterology and hepatology and Dr. Balogh Márton - specialists in Otology.

Part concerning the diagnostics is in another part of the clinic and is made of rooms for Xray, CT, ultrasound diagnostics and endoscopy. Most of the time I watched diagnostics performed by Dr. Arany-Tóth Attila - radiology, Dr. Ferenc Manczur - ultrasound, Dr. Roland Psánder and Dr. Balogh Márton - endoscopy.

Intensive care involves constant monitoring of patients whose condition is not stable. Most of my time in internal medicine I would stay in the intensive care room with my mentor dr. Viszi Zsuzsanna, dr. Aradi Zsófia, dr. Éva Balogh and dr. Csöndes Judith.

The working day began at 8 am, when we had a short briefing on patients in intensive care, got to know the conditions of animals and therapies they have been receiving during the night shift. After that, we would have a morning meeting where we got acquainted with new patients and discuss diagnoses. After morning meetings we went to the intensive care unit, prepared medication, took animals for a walk, gave medicine and infusions, monitored the patient's condition, and during the days when there were not many patients at the clinic, we usually had discussions with doctors on a given topic (eg. Addison's disease, acute pancreatitis, etc). For the rest of the day we would pick one of the three parts of internal medicine and worked there. The work day usually ended around 16pm.



Students doing clinical examinations and discussing about possible diagnosis

Practical training in obstetrics (04.04.-06.05.)

Practical training in obstetrics lasted five weeks, during which our mentor was dr. Lipscey Zsuzsanna with whom we spent the most time during our practice at the department of obstetrics. We also followed the work of dr. Kecskeméthy Sára and dr. Linda Müller.

Surgical room at the obstetrics part of the clinic has three additional rooms, one of which serves to prepare animals for surgery, the other one is used for postoperative recovery and the third is the scrubbing area where doctors and patients prepare and disinfect themselves before surgery.

The working day began at 8 am. The obstetrics Department cooperates with local shelters, so every working day four dogs arrive to the clinic for castration, ovariectomy, or ovariohysterectomy. With such patients - stray dogs, we had the opportunity to assist in the process of operation and even, under the supervision of a veterinarian, to do the procedure and sew all the layers of the opening wound. Students were also in charge of preparing drugs, premedication, intubation, monitoring parameters of anesthesia during the operation and monitoring the recovery of patients. Occasionally there were also patients brought in by their owners and on such cases we observed the operation. The work day ended between 12-16h depending on the number of operations planned for that day. During the five weeks we've been on shift at obstetrics department we also had the opportunity to attend three Caesarean sections.

Volunteering at the equine clinic (25.04.-06.05.)

In addition to practice in obstetrics, last two weeks I also spent at the equine clinic which is located in the village Üllo around 30 kilometers from Budapest.

Transportation from the faculty to the clinic was organized every morning at 7 am. Upon arrival at the clinic, around 8 am, we would have a morning meeting and a brief introduction with patients which are present at the clinic and their diagnoses and treatment plans. Then the students would prepare the medication and gave the morning therapy to the horses. Monitoring of all the animals is carried out every three hours and by the schedule - at 9am, 12am and 15pm.

Between monitoring the horses, we often had the chance to observe the radiological and ultrasound diagnostics with dr. Péter Tóth, endoscopy with dr. Tuska Pal and operations which were mostly castrations and fractures of carpal joint in sport horses that were performed by dr. Izing Simon.



Clinic for large animals in Ullo (picture above) and practical lecture in Equine disease