

Merck Scholars

Alicia Konsella



Pictured, back row, left to right: Tricia Hartwig (VMIII), Tim Smith (VMIII), Chris Knoebel (VMIII), Daun Sprouls (VMII), Alicia Konsella (VMII), Carla Morrow (VMIII), Patricia Heine (VMII), Deb Sime (VMII), Jill Henry (VMIII), (not pictured Brennen Smith)

During the 1992 summer season, ten Iowa State veterinary students were given the opportunity to experience research first hand. It was the second year that the Merck Foundation has provided funding for student research projects, and the first year that several students were funded through the College of Veterinary Medicine (2). First and second year students chose a veterinary faculty mentor whose area of research matched their interests. Working with their mentor, they then designed a project, wrote a proposal, and upon approval, carried out the project during the summer.

Alicia Konsella is a second year student in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University.

In addition to working on their projects, the students had weekly meetings. These meetings included fieldtrips to the laboratories of the National Animal Disease Center and the National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa. Students also visited Fort Dodge Laboratories in Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Upon completion of the projects, the students prepared posters and presented their research to faculty and fellow students of the College of Veterinary Medicine. Funding for the projects covered the costs of the projects as well as student stipends. The Merck Foundation and the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine has provided an excellent opportunity for students to exercise their research capabilities as well as a valuable learning experience.