



Image: A farm event on the Ballindalloch Castle estate, Aberdeenshire



Award Scheme

2017 Winners

The World Health Assembly, One Health Leadership Experience and Alberta's intensive cattle systems: what use for Scotland and the globe?

ROSIE HERRINGTON (VETERINARY STUDENT, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH)

“This experience opened my eyes to the challenges that providing food security for all face. It has further inspired me to follow a career in this area to hopefully try to help solve some of these challenges.”



Rosie chose to apply to the Award in order to broaden her knowledge and experience of the world's different farm systems. She wanted to further understand how this links into Scotland's farming and global health in general. This was achieved in three parts:

Attending the World Health Assembly in Geneva. Rosie was one of three who were chosen to represent the International Veterinary Students' Association (IVSA) and to learn about the WHO's work in general. Topics discussed included AMR, Nutrition, Neglected Tropical Diseases, Climate Change and Tuberculosis.

Visiting Strathmore Veterinary Clinic in Alberta, Canada. At Strathmore Veterinary Clinic, Rosie got to visit farms ranging from a dairy herd run by a Hutterite community to a 35,000 head feedlot. A highlight was time spent with Feedlot Health who have their headquarters in Alberta and manage over 3 million cattle across Canada, United States, Mexico, Russia, South Africa and China.

One Health Leadership Experience. Held at the University of Saskatchewan, Rosie took part in discussions about the future trends in animal protein consumption, AMR and zoonotic diseases.

Investigating One Health and Agriculture in Canada

ANGUS CASSIE (VETERINARY STUDENT, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH)

“The One Health Leadership Experience provided a lot of inspiration for our own One Health talks. I was particularly inspired by the antimicrobial resistance talk by Dr Lonnie King, and as a result organised an AMR event.”



Angus applied to the Award so that he may travel to Canada to learn more about North American agriculture and experience rural mixed veterinary practice in the province of Alberta. He also wished to see how the One Health concept is being approached in Canada by attending the One Health Leadership Experience at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon.

He started the visit with a three-week placement at Strathmore Vets in Strathmore, Alberta. This busy rural practice was a great place to improve his clinical skills and consolidate his knowledge from the veterinary course, along with seeing conditions not seen in Scotland (such as Potomac fever in horses) and different methods for treatment used by Canadian vets. Angus also spent time with Feedlot Health veterinary services.

The final part of the trip was to the One Health Leadership Experience. The event consisted of talks and workshops on One Health topics including service animals, antibiotic resistance, and controlling disease outbreaks, along with leadership skills in a healthcare setting.

Summer Dairy Institute

RACHEL HALL (VETERINARY STUDENT, UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL)

“I gained knowledge and technical skills, but the biggest lesson I learned is that people are the most important part of any operation.”



Rachel applied to the Award in order to attend the Summer Dairy Institute (SDI) held at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York State, USA. SDI is an intensive six-week course, designed to accelerate the training of veterinary students intending to work in the dairy industry. A class of 26 students, from all over US and around the world were in attendance.

Throughout the course the students learnt the latest technical information and practical skills from industry leaders. The overarching themes were herd health, recent research and using data to make decisions. A wide range of topics were covered, ranging from facility design to calf nutrition to milking machine specifics to economics.

They were very fortunate to be exposed to interesting and inspiring speakers from a wide variety of backgrounds. SDI created the opportunity to build strong friendships with other students interested in dairy, and to build relationships with leaders in industry and open the path for future collaboration or employment.

After SDI Rachel stayed in North-Eastern USA for a further two and a half weeks, during which she visited contacts that she had established on the course. As a result of SDI, she undertook a summer research internship at Riverview LLP, and was based in Minnesota for 10 weeks during summer 2018.