

April 20, 2018

Jennifer Barton, Ph.D.
Director, BIO5 Institute, BIO5 Institute
Chair of the search committee
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona 85721

Dear Dr. Barton,

Please find enclosed my curriculum vitae in consideration for the position as Dean of the University Of Arizona College Of Veterinary Medicine (UA-CVM). I currently serve as the Executive Associate Dean at Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine. My job responsibilities include: representing the College in the Dean's absence; day to day management of the College; strategic planning; budgetary advisement; faculty and staff personnel management; overseeing academic affairs, student services and admissions; curriculum management; and overseeing examination services and outcomes assessment. My motivation in seeking this position is to lead UA-CVM's innovative program to make a national and global impact in Veterinary Medicine and to work with a creative leadership team to enhance and grow the faculty, staff, College and University.

I have a well-rounded academic background, having served as a tenured faculty member at a public land grant institution, a private for-profit university, and now at a private not-for-profit university. I have a primarily large animal background, having worked with food animals and horses in the first part of my career, transitioning to a more horse, camelid, and small animal focus later. I have worked both in and out of the United States, experiencing diverse cultures. I have learned to recognize rankism, implicit bias and intersectionality, which has led me to be more culturally competent. These experiences have given me unique opportunities to learn multiple cultural, educational, research, funding and budgetary scenarios. As an example, the private universities have the distinction of working within student tuition boundaries, necessitating exploration and implementation of efficiency models that land grant universities have not instituted as broadly. With potential continuing declines in state higher education support, land grant Institutions will need to adopt further methods in order to enable program growth and development. Because of my diverse background, I am uniquely equipped to bring forward new ideas to address current, relevant veterinary medical issues.

With a high debt to income ratio, Veterinary Medicine faces a dilemma in creating and sustaining an affordable education. Education becomes less accessible to students of all income ranges. Innovative methods need developed to address these issues in order to stay competitive and to offer education to all students. The University of Arizona is leading the effort to create a more affordable program. I would continue this initiative through potential programmatic innovations, new curricular models, scholarship development, ensuring fiscal responsibility, and developing new revenue and funding streams.

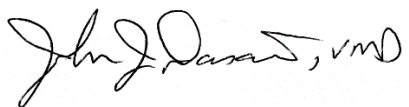
I have been at the LMU-CVM since 2014 and the initial development of the College of Veterinary Medicine. It has been an exhilarating experience to develop a new College of Veterinary Medicine. I have assisted with all aspects of accreditation including interim reporting, interim site visits and a final comprehensive site visit of our hybrid-distributed model. I have worked closely with Mark Cushing and Bob Lester in program development and accreditation. I received training as a site team evaluator in 2017, which gave me direct access to the evaluation process used by the AVMA-COE. I am well

prepared to address UA-CVM's status and to guide UA-CVM through their successful accreditation process. In working with a developing College, I have had specific responsibilities in developing admissions, student services, curriculum, research, and outcomes assessment along with providing insight in other programmatic areas.

I have worked with the Dean to convert from a pro forma to a budget and to hire the majority of the faculty and staff. We have implemented strategies to collaborate with other Universities and veterinary groups and to complete building projects to enhance the College. I have experience with inter-professional programs and working to develop One Health programs. At my current institution, we created the Center for Animal and Human Health in Appalachia (CAHA) that has brought together medical, government, public health and veterinary groups to address socioeconomic issues and other important topics such as the opioid crisis. I would institute achievable strategic goals to lead the UA-CVM through its initial development and to seek collaborative partnerships. I would create a positive educational and research culture at UA-CVM to enhance productivity and satisfaction.

I am a clinician, a researcher, an educator, an administrator and a colleague. I am a strong advocate for active learning and for innovative methods to deliver the curriculum with strong outcomes assessment. I am a people person who would bring to UA-CVM a sense of community with my leadership. I would engage and enhance the faculty to take what is good and to make it great. I am a detail-oriented individual who values and respects a team's input. I would build consensus when needed and make hard decision when warranted. I have the experience to lead UA-CVM as a newly developing College of Veterinary Medicine. Veterinary Medicine is a great profession that is undergoing some significant changes that require new, pioneering ideas to address current and future issues. UA-CVM needs a leader with vision, foresight and the drive to excel. I look forward to involvement with a great University and the people who have worked hard to make it that way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John J. Dascanio, VMD". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the letters "J", "D", and "V" being particularly prominent.

John J. Dascanio, VMD, DACT, DABVP (Equine)
Executive Associate Dean, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
Professor of Theriogenology
Lincoln Memorial University-College of Veterinary Medicine
207 Volunteer Lane, Harrogate, TN 37752
dascanioj@gmail.com
865.585.2846