

2016



Re-SER Faculty of Veterinary
Medicine Cluj-Napoca, Romania

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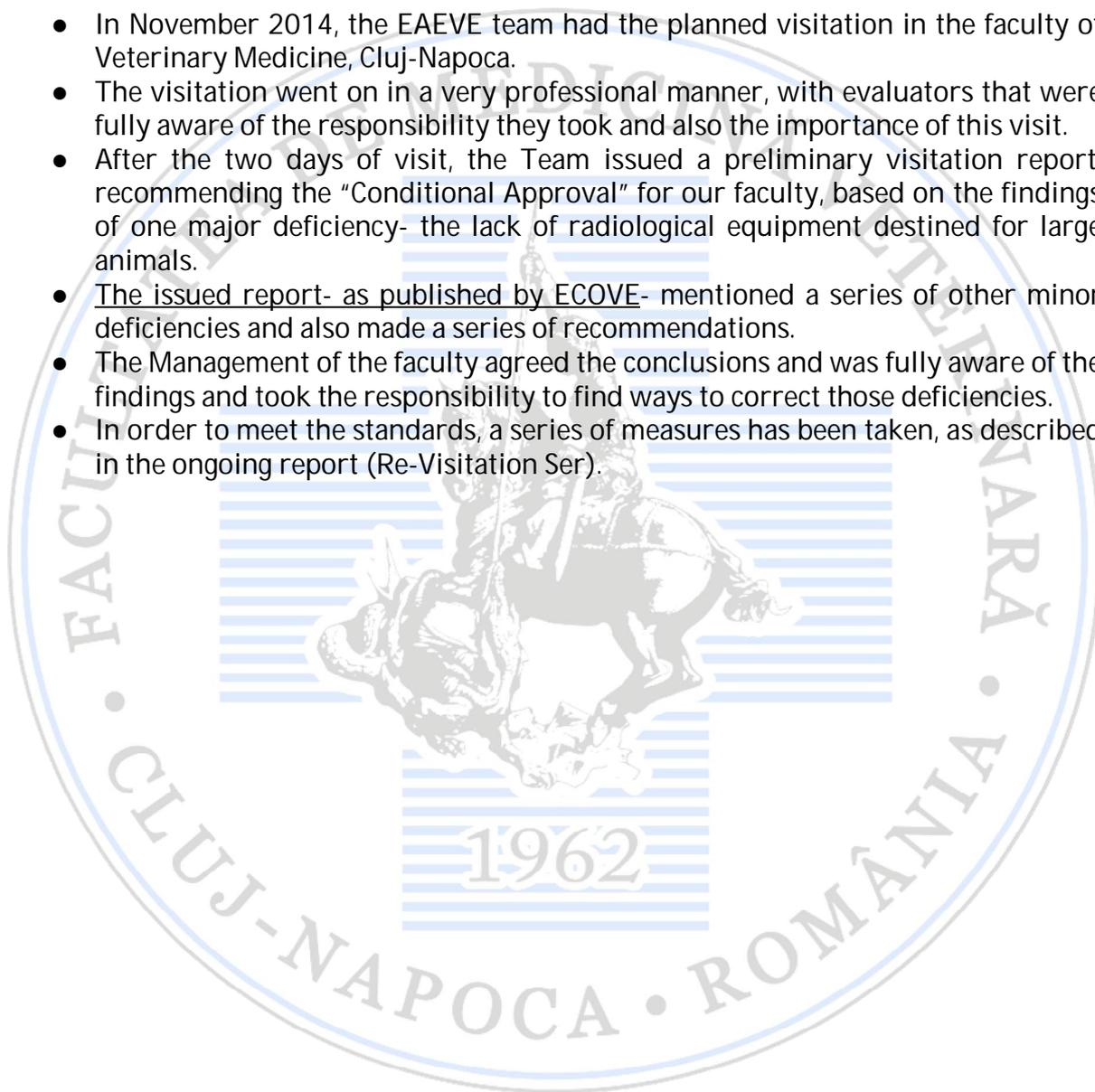
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1. INTRODUCTION

“Brief summary of the conclusions of the previous Visitation and of the commitment of the Establishment to correct the Deficiencies and to become fully compliant with the ESEVT Standards”

- In November 2014, the EAEVE team had the planned visitation in the faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cluj-Napoca.
- The visitation went on in a very professional manner, with evaluators that were fully aware of the responsibility they took and also the importance of this visit.
- After the two days of visit, the Team issued a preliminary visitation report, recommending the “Conditional Approval” for our faculty, based on the findings of one major deficiency- the lack of radiological equipment destined for large animals.
- The issued report- as published by ECOVE- mentioned a series of other minor deficiencies and also made a series of recommendations.
- The Management of the faculty agreed the conclusions and was fully aware of the findings and took the responsibility to find ways to correct those deficiencies.
- In order to meet the standards, a series of measures has been taken, as described in the ongoing report (Re-Visitation Ser).



1. CORRECTION OF THE MAJOR DEFICIENCIES

The visitation report stressed the existence of one major deficiency -the lack of radiological equipment.

This deficiency was listed under the heading referring the the clinical facilities.

PHYSICAL FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT. CLINICAL FACILITIES AND ORGANISATION

Comments from Visitation Report

"the radiological equipment does not meet the standards as defined in the SOP, particularly for the equine radiology. This is considered as a major deficiency"

- As a consequence of the findings of the visitation team, the management of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca decided to fully take the responsibility and started the



FIGURE 1 THE RADIOLOGICAL EQUIPMENT FOR LARGE ANIMALS

procedures for the acquisition of the equipment.

- The purchase of the equipment was a long-lasting process, in accordance to the procedures of state-subsidized institutions and required an application to the national auction system that calls for a lot of documentations and time.
- The financing source was the main budget of the Faculty and with some support from the main budget of the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine the procedure started early 2016.
- On the other hand, a proper space had to be prepared, in accordance with the regulatory and safety procedures required by the National Commission for Nuclear Activities ([CNCAN](#)) (the national authority that approves and controls all activities that deal with radiation devices and authorizes the personnel).

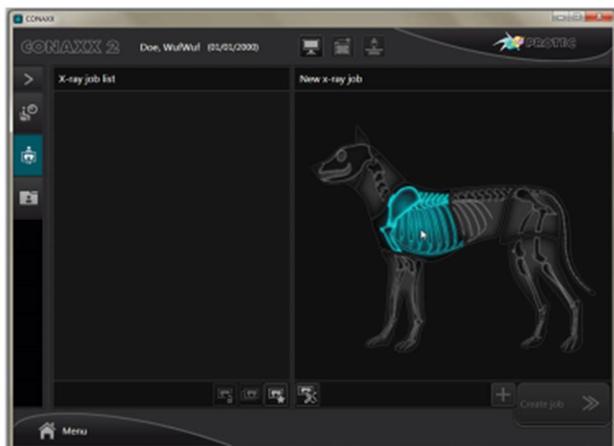


FIGURE 2 THE SOFTWARE INTERFACE-
RADIOLOGICAL EQUIPMENT

- In April 2016 the space has been approved by CNCAN, meeting all the standards required and the hardware started to be installed in early July 2016. At this time, the equipment is fully functional.

- The approximate amount spent for the setup of the space (electricity, infrastructure, preparation, provisioning) and the equipment itself was about 250.000 euro.

The equipment installed:

- **DIGITAL X RAY UNIT VET-MT271** – Dual ceiling suspension stand veterinary system for large

animals radiography

- Air suspension design foreseen to support and move a radiogen system and a detector, having primary use in veterinary application in large animals examination.
- The radiogen system and the detector are installed on telescopic arms suspended on longitudinal and transversal travels that permit vertical, longitudinal and lateral movement of the radiogen system and the detector.
- The system can be moved 360° on a vertical and horizontal plane, and can be lowered or elevated 150 cm, therefore this system helps perform radiographic examination in different exposure position and angles. The X Ray Tube has a capacity of 150 kV.



FIGURE 3 RADIOLOGICAL EQUIPMENT- HARDWARE

- **Flat panel detector Fujifilm FDR D-EVO G43i/s** – DR-ID 602E configuration
- **Aquisition Software CONAXX 2 VET**

SUGGESTIONS OF IMPROVEMENTS

- In the light of the new demands for a modern veterinary medicine, the idea of the specialization in the field of veterinary imagistics is not an unusual one. This is the reason why the management of FMV encourages one of the younger fellows from the Radiology Department in finding a possibility for the enrollment into a European Specialization. This procedure is still at its debut, with not a firm response (yet) from the international contacted bodies.

- It is similarly obvious the setup of a highly specialized Center for Imagistics, especially due to the fact that the CT machine is under the management of the same Department, with highly encouraging results and external responses.
- An information campaign addressed to the private clinics in the country about the capabilities of this Centre will do nothing but to increase the visibility of our Clinics and also maintain the much-desired connection with the stakeholders and fellow veterinarians.

1. CORRECTION OF THE MINOR DEFICIENCIES

OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY

Comments from Visitation Report

"The objectives of FMVCN are presented in the SER as an extensive list, running to several pages..They tend to be statements of intent, rather than objectives, they are not specific and they lack a timescale"

" ... the Faculty should prepare and agree a concise statement of objectives – or Mission Statement – which would encapsulate the ethos and aspirations of the Faculty for the provision of high quality veterinary undergraduate education"

" ... detail should be added to the management plan, to distinguish between projects that are ongoing or proposed, prioritise the proposals and include a timescale for commencement and completion of each item"

- The main mission of the faculty is the didactical, research and technological transfer in veterinary sciences. In order to reach these goals, the faculty had to consider the standards for education, the administrative and the research imposed by the [National Law of Education](#) and the [University's Carta](#).
- The managerial plan is somehow overlaid on the Strategic Plan of the University on a 4-year timescale. In this document, some clearly quantifiable objectives are to be found, along with some that lack a clear timescale due to typical difficulties of the long-term state subsidization issues.
- Examples of specific quantifiable objectives:
 - Reduction of the teaching load depending on didactical clinical excellence- implemented in July 2016
 - New staff employed, both on didactical (14 new positions) and support positions ([see the chapter dedicated to support staff](#))
 - [Modernization of the clinical facilities](#) (ongoing, permanent objective)
 - Internship programme in emergency veterinary medicine and intensive therapy (implemented-October 2015) and equine medicine (November 2015)
 - Extension of the species-orientated education from the 4-th year onwards (academic year 2017-2018)
 - Voluntary work for students and implementation of the ECTS for this type of activity- equine clinic (2016)
 - Implementation of SDL in the curriculum, e-learning ([see chapter](#))
 - In order to meet demands of the international students (Erasmus+ mobilities), a separate and supplementary group was established (2015-2016)

- Establishment and implementation of quality assurance system in clinical and paraclinical protocols in collaboration with experts of National Sanitary-Veterinary Authority and College of Veterinarians.
- Finalizing the feasibility study for the external clinic of FMV Cluj (large animals) (2016)
- Debut of the construction works for the external clinic for large animals in Jucu location (2017)
- EBVS Residency enrollment for other 3 colleagues from faculty staff (2017)
- Establishment of the "[Human-Animal Interaction Center](#)" - partnership with Psychology and Medicine faculties

ORGANISATION

Comments from Visitation Report

"The SER itself suggests that external veterinary authorities and veterinary professional associations should be more involved in the development of the Faculty's strategy.

The team would strongly endorse this suggestion, if it can be achieved within University regulations - or the rules can be changed to allow it"

- At the level of the entire University, a special body has been established in order to deal with the strategy of development of the institution - the Council of University Strategies (Consiliul de Strategii Universitare). This Council is formed by 11 personalities that are not part of the university but members of the stakeholders, local business, national professional organisations and international advisors from similar universities (for details, please check the provided link). Its main mission is to provide assistance to the university (and faculty) management team for main issues referring to financial, structural, educational management etc. As a result of the election procedures in our university, the new Rector is our former Dean. In this new light, we are more than confident that the Council for Strategies will play a stronger role in the integration of veterinary-related issues into the main strategy of the academic history of our University with more emphasis on the importance of the veterinary education in the global perspective of a modern European educational system.
- We strongly feel that the regulations of the University are quite permissive in this direction, allowing directly the Rector to be directly advised by the members of the Council. The presence of the President of the National College of Veterinarians as a full member (and active one!) is a proof of the commitment of the University (respectively FMV-CN) for the engagement towards a more close link to the "field-reality".

CURRICULUM

GENERAL ASPECTS

Comments from Visitation Report

"The scope of the general courses (communication, etc) could be extended, for instance with academic writing, literature research, good laboratory or good research practice in order to foster the training of professionalism"

- The amendment of the curriculum is a continuous process, and, the contents of the general courses (communication and career development courses) were improved

according to the visitation report and the minimal competencies included in Directive EU 55/2013.

- The specific good laboratory and good research practices items were strongly suggested to be implemented into the curriculum of the specific subjects (eg. microbiology, oncology, pathophysiology, surgery, etc)

Comments from Visitation Report

"The opportunity of a progressive shift from an hours-based curriculum to a more modular system (integrated and/or block-courses) could make the teaching and learning more efficient"

- It has become more and more obvious the need to change toward a more "blocks-orientated" modules, especially in the last year of study, where the species-related approaches and the collaboration between the members of different clinics led to a grouping of some blocks in order to better fit the time-spans and the field-trips (more precisely, as an example it has become traditional the grouping of the reproduction block and the internal diseases or infectious diseases block(s) in case of horse clinic).
- Procedure is still under a long series of debate, with several proposals of grouping of subjects into a more "organ or system-oriented approach" (possible grouping of anatomy, physiology, histology topics or animal breeding - animal productions - nutrition - hygiene topics) and species-orientated approaches in clinical sciences in the 5th year of study.

Comments from Visitation Report

"Some priorities in the learning objectives could be re-evaluated in response to the evolution of the profession and the veterinary market (outcome orientation of the curriculum). This would correspond to a shift from mainly learning objectives to outcome/competencies-based teaching.

"The organization and the management of the extramurals should be carefully monitored by the faculty, and regular contacts should happen with the directors of the private clinics or practices under contract, in order to guarantee that the teaching is in line with the academic teaching"

- In order to ensure the acquisition of competencies for our students, the Faculty is fully aware that the market itself decides the need for veterinarians.
- In order to adapt its curriculum towards the nowadays challenges, the faculty permanently collects data referring to these demanded competencies for the labor market - stakeholders, professional and scientific societies and veterinary authorities.
- The desired competences are included and evaluated into the contents of each intramural taught subjects.
- The extramural training rules state ratios between different types of activities, the minimal quality requirements of the placement, and the outcomes evaluation by tutors.
- The Minimal Skills Logbook is a useful tool designed to verify the fulfillment of minimal competences for first day; the first day competencies are periodically updated.

BASIC SUBJECTS AND SCIENCES

Comments from Visitation Report

"...practical trainings should move from traditional approach by using more effective methods. It would be appropriate to analyze the possibilities to add self-directed learning as additional factor for student oriented activities within basic subjects and sciences"

- During the immediate period of the 2014 EAEVE evaluation, a new approach of the documentation and the factual aspect referring to taught subjects was implemented. This was also a result of the demands of the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS) that clearly asks for another approach in the Course Descriptions Forms.
- Subjects were organized accordingly and more and more emphasis is given towards the use of the SDL into the teaching process.

Comments from Visitation Report

"A strategy for continuous assessment of educational policy should be discussed at the level of whole faculty teaching and student staff"

- This kind of issues are permanently in the light of the Faculty's Council that regularly assesses the outcomes of the entire educational process.
- The feedbacks given by students through the annual evaluation, by the last-year students and by recent graduates, using special procedures elaborated by DAC and FMVCN play an important role in the development of the educational policy of FMV CN.
- Teachers play themselves a role in the assessment of the "weight" of one or another subject (eg. the reduction of the parasitology quota into the last year clinical rotations, the change in the ratio of surgery hours in poultry rotation etc.).
- The feedbacks received from the Council for Strategies, EAEVE reports, visiting fellow teachers, professionals and scientific societies play also an important role in this assessment.

Comments from Visitation Report

"Although there is clear evidence that the students in Anatomy ...are exposed to sufficient animal material..., still a certain amount is formalin-fixed and flushed prior to use. The team strongly suggest ceasing the use of formalin in anatomy practical training"

- The use of formalin fixed anatomical pieces is a consequence of the non-availability of all specimens for the didactical activity in the moment planned in our weekly-based curriculum. So teachers prefer to use some of the delicate pieces - that are not possible to be kept fresh for the entire week, when a certain topic is approached with the groups
- As a consequence of EAEVE recommendations, we increased the quantity of frozen pieces used in the didactical process. This is noticeable for the activity of the 2-nd year, in topographic activity, where students are exposed only to fresh/defrost pieces for their part of individual dissections. Similarly, were increased the numbers of fresh cadavers, carcasses and organs used.
- Progressive development of plastinated and digital based specimens, in addition to fresh pieces, will eliminate the formalin-fixed pieces in the following years.

ANIMAL PRODUCTION

Comments from Visitation Report

"To assure the long term viability of farm and clinical case access arrangements, contractual agreements should be entered into"

- The increasing number of contractual agreements with farms and local clinics is based on a mutual advantage.
- There is a constant pressure from farms to start this kind of arrangements, based on the expertise given by our teachers.

- The (local) veterinary clinics are placing our students free of charge due to its good collaboration with the Faculty, the faculty acting as referral clinic and place for continuous professional education for them.

Comments from Visitation Report

“Integrating welfare considerations into all zootechnical and clinical activity is strongly suggested. This may best be done by a week in the 6th year where students produce a whole farm assessment and health plan under the supervision of staff”

- As a result of the new demands imposed also by the International regulations and EAEVE as well, the Faculty implemented more than 10 years ago into the curriculum the topic called “Management and Veterinary Marketing”. The topic is taught in the last year of studies and approaches, in 4 lectures and 4 seminars (out of 13) issues referring to specific management plans for large farms as well as family farms. The management plan tries to integrate - both horizontally and vertically - the specificity of the local market. The plan management analysis deals with calculations of market potential, the need for development and investments for the farm, production planning depending on the species breed, feeding conditions, hygiene and welfare issues and the integration of the sanitary-veterinary actions (preventive or curative) into the entire economic activity.
- In the same philosophy, several subjects (such as animal welfare, animal production systems, veterinary management and marketing) have planned visits in farms in order to integrate their activities with the clinical ones, fulfilling this demand.
- The new curriculum that has been set up in 2014 will soon allow the extension of the species-orientated approach starting from the IV-th year (in academic year 2017-2018) with a greater opportunity to integrate welfare and zootechnical -related subjects as a possible module in the last year of study (2020-2021).

CLINICAL SCIENCES

Comments from Visitation Report

“...a course on “Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care” should be considered as a mandatory course, given the importance that veterinary emergency and critical care in general has acquired in companion animal medicine”

- As the EAEVE Visitation report stated in 2014, the Faculty Management decided, also in the light of some legislative national changes, the implementation of the Veterinary Emergency Medicine Course.
- The first year of implementation- 2015-2016 passed with the course set for the 2-nd semester (semester X) and, due to a high charge of hours for the corresponding semester, a decision of switching the course for the IX-th semester has been taken by the Council of FMV.
- At the present time, the curriculum contains the “Emergency Veterinary Medicine” course, with a quota of 2 hours of lecture and 2 hours of practicals/week (4 ECTS).

Comments from Visitation Report

“...suggests intensifying the establishment of the species-oriented concept all over the clinics”

- In 2013 the Faculty Council adopted the curriculum for the species-orientated study in the last year (VI, semesters XI and XII).

- As a necessity of the evolution of the veterinary profession in Romania, based also on the recommendations of EAEVE in 2014, the Faculty decided the extension of the species-orientated curriculum in the 4-th, 5-th and 6-th year (semesters VII-XII).
- Taking into consideration the provisions of the National Law of Education 1/2011 and the conditions of ARACIS, the switch towards this species-orientated curriculum is to be gradual, and will be put into action from the 4-th year of study starting from the academic year 2018-2019.

Comments from Visitation Report

“rotation might be improved in the sense of a more species-oriented organization and that the activity at the emergency hospital should be considered to be included in the rotation system”

- The Emergency's hospital main casuistry relies on companion animals. The activity here is included into the compulsory practice activity for students of the V-th and VI-th year (semesters IX,X,XI,XII).
- Starting from the academic year 2016-2017, the same activity will become compulsory for the students of the IV-th year, as a consequence of an increasingly higher number of cases being sent to the equine and large ruminants units.
- As the species-orientated approach will be extended into the 4-th year (2018-2019), the entire timetable will be organized on a rotation basis, included into the main clinical rotations.

Comments from Visitation Report

“the intranet database not completely adequate for keeping the clinical information in an accessible and reliable way. New software, more modern and user-friendly (open to the students) should be considered as well as an increase of the number of the terminals in the different examination rooms (e.g. emergency room, hospitalization unit, internal medicine and so on)”

- The Maravet software is a relatively new specialized software (updated to 2014 version)
- In some departments- Ruminants clinic and Propaedeutics, the clinical observation sheets are filled by the students under the direct supervision of the clinicians.
- In 2016 we decided that all clinical observation sheets to be inputted into the main electronic system by students, as an obligation of the fulfillment of the requirements of the minimal number of cases (caseload) during the clinical stages.
- For the academic year of 2016-2017 there is an ongoing plan for the increase of the number of terminals, also accessible to students.

Comments from Visitation Report

“the number of hospitalized animals not completely adequate for enabling the students to follow the clinical course of a disease and to manage the relative treatment. Efforts are necessary to favour hospitalization of animals. An improvement of the hospitalization rooms (included the presence of a critical care room), and a better management of the hospitalization unit might be helpful in increasing the number of companion animals that could be hospitalized. In respect to large animals a more incisive action on the farmers and on the practitioners, together with extra favorable prices or above average services (e.g., operation not possible on the field or other highly specialized diagnostic procedures) might be helpful to convince owners to send animals to the clinics for treatment”

- From 2014 onwards the hospitalization spaces underwent several renewals and changes (see the dedicated chapter for hospital spaces- horses, ruminants, dog/cats etc).
- The overall increase of the clinical cases started slowly, with an increase of paraclinical investigations (laboratory, imaging etc).
 - The critical care room (see picture) was set within the premises of the Emergency room
 - [Equine unit](#)
 - [Exotic species clinic](#)
 - There is a flexible pricing policy used for large farms, as the contractual agreements allowing student activity makes the farm benefit from reduced fees in exchange for the permission given to students to access the casuistry

Comments from Visitation Report

"A more evident species-oriented organization of the clinics and the presence of specialists in large animal medicine (horse and cattle) might also be useful in attracting cases.

- The establishment of a Horse unit ([see dedicated chapter](#)) seemed to be a salutary decision that led to the increase of cases presented to the FMV Clinics.
- [The Exotic Animals Unit](#) is another good example that does nothing but to confirm the previous statement.
- Also the large number of cases recorded in Cattle Clinic in the last two years show that things are going in the good direction.
- The process is an ongoing process, maybe a little slower than expected, but with very promising results.

Comments from Visitation Report

"The faculty might take into consideration the possibility of buying low-value diseased large animals: these might be treated by the students and according to the course, subsequently be examined pathologically or slaughtered."

- This is a regular procedure that is functional.
- More than that, due to the more intense contacts with farms and breeding units, the Faculty also "lends" productively-compromised animals for a certain period of time, houses them and treats them. When the desired health status is reached, an exchange with other animals, in the same state may be reached, so the availability of clinical cases increases.

Comments from Visitation Report

"Mobile clinic...the "registry sheet for external visits" an important tool to keep the record of the mobile clinic activity updated and traceable. It might be useful to write out the register immediately on return to the faculty from field activity"

- This observation has been fully assumed by the Management. As a consequence of the deficiencies in this field, this fact is mentioned in the Regulations of the Clinical Activity of our Faculty and it has been monitored lately more carefully, with some corrections in the way some of the teachers were filling the form and registering the external cases.

Comments from Visitation Report

“important to improve the emergency hospital. Different distribution of the space of the emergency hospital (it is not clear why an examination room for dermatology is allocated at the emergency hospital), an increase in the hospitalization capacity (possibly with an extra room for critical care patients), the provision of external runs for resident dogs and improved equipment in the wards should all be considered.

- The dermatology room has been isolated from the ER spaces, with separate access and independent functionality.
- The hospitalisation capacity increased slowly by establishing a certain number of housing facilities (metal enclosures) in the rooms of Internal Medicine (4 places for small animals), Propaedeutics (6 places), Surgery (4 places), Reproduction (4 places).
- A critical care room has been established within the premises of the ER



FIGURE 4 CRITICAL CARE ROOM-EMERGENCY HOSPITAL

- Several [renewals in the hospital area.](#)

Comments from Visitation Report

“The radiological clinic should be provided with X-Ray equipment for adequate state-of-the-art radiological investigation in horses, cattle and larger companion animals”

- As this is the major deficiency mentioned by the EAEVE evaluation in 2014, a series of measures were taken in order to meet the standards.
- The detailed description of the newly acquired devices can be found in [chapter dedicated to the major deficiency of the present report.](#)

Comments from Visitation Report

“In the necropsy room an improvement of the hoist system and of the doorway should be undertaken”

- Presently a feasibility study is in course. The scope is whether the monorail system (that was installed up to the area of the entrance into the necropsy room) can be extended further, towards the main platform situated in front of the entrance. There are structural issues that, up until now, were invoked, preventing any structural intervention due to the presence of a transversal concrete joist/beam.
- As such, the solution used in order to avoid the possibility of contamination and to reduce the contact with surrounding elements, a dedicated stainless-steel trolley is used

in order to take the cadavers from the transportation vehicles into the area where it can be hooked by the hoisting system into the necropsy room.

FOOD HYGIENE

Comments from Visitation Report

"To ensure that students' training fulfills the first-day skills in public health and mainly in slaughterhouse meat inspection it would be convenient to include 2 to 3 weeks of training integrated in the rotation training activities of the curriculum"

- The issue has been addressed to our colleagues in Food Safety Department and so far the reception is good. Solutions and possibilities are explored in order to find the best way to implement this activity (and here the field and slaughterhouse visits are targeted mainly) into the timetable of the V-th year.

ELECTIVES, OPTIONAL DISCIPLINES

Comments from Visitation Report

"more practically oriented courses might be offered, especially in clinical, pathological and food hygiene matters. The clinical electives might be supported in the clinics and at the emergency hospital with clinical cases especially in large animals"

- This suggestion is taken as such, the faculty encouraging the implementation of new courses (electives, facultatives/free electives etc).
- The initiative of establishing a new course is usually taken by teachers, they come with a proposal that is analyzed by the Didactical Council (in accordance with the specific regulations) and then the decision is taken by the Faculty's Council.
- We are facing now a overcharge of hours, especially on the Clinical Department, so such an initiative in this domain is less probable to happen in a short time, unless new staff comes in order to release the teaching-hours pressure.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Comments from Visitation Report

"...practical trainings should move from traditional approach to more time effective methods based on effectiveness and updated information. New methodologies of teaching (case or research based oriented) should be encouraged and applied by all the teachers and all lines (Romanian, French and English)"

"Specific and practical seminars on didactic methods may be a useful tool to be attended by the professors as a strategy to implement this methodology"

- The Teacher Training Department (DPPD) is in charge with the initial preparation of the teaching staff. Nowadays regulations do not allow a teacher to start their activity (regardless of the fact that he/she is a PhD students or has a teaching position) without receiving the specific teacher-training modules.
- On a regular basis, the staff from this department acts as promoters of new(er) methods that are mainly presented to staff during the different sections of the annual symposium of USAMV (section Miscellaneous).

Comments from Visitation Report

"It would be appropriate to analyze the possibilities to add self-directed learning as an additional factor for student oriented activities within basic subjects and sciences"

- [The problem of SDL and its implementation](#) was addressed earlier in the chapter dedicated to Basic subjects.

Comments from Visitation Report

"Animal welfare, biosecurity as well as public health concepts should be considered in all the subjects and properly supervised by the teachers within the subjects"

- The topic is subject to analysis, although these issues are somehow approached in fact by each teacher and at each subject, in respect to the specific topics
- As the Commission implies, the members of the Didactic council will advise all teachers to emphasise these issues in all topics dealing with animals, stressing the fact that wellbeing, welfare and biosecurity are important in a global perspective, not only in the specific taught topics.

Comments from Visitation Report

"There should be continued support for and development of web-based and other IT platforms to support teaching and learning... Open WIFI access may help to increase the connection options available to the students - not linked to the computer rooms only"

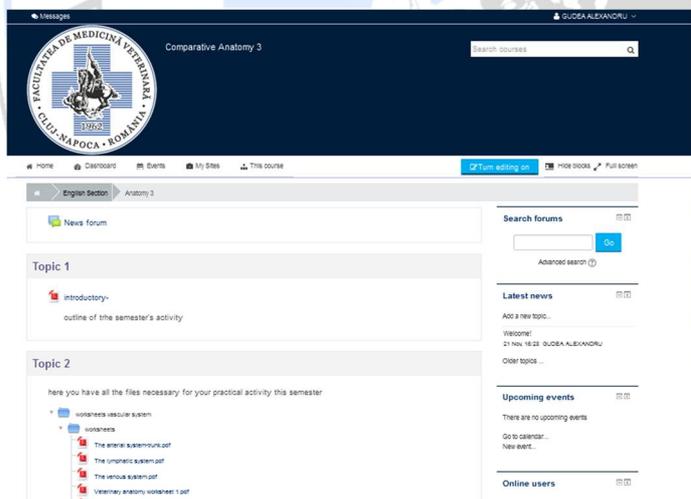


FIGURE 5 E-LEARNING MODULE-SCREEN CAPTURE

- The campus (the entire area of the University) benefits now of a free Wi-Fi connection for students. There is a SSID called "student" that can be freely used ([please see the chapter dedicated to IT facilities](#)). This facility started to be implemented in early 2015 and extended gradually to its full capacity now.

- The [e-learning system is in use](#), starting from 2015 a Moodle-based platform has been acquired by our faculty. In the present moment most of the students are enrolled, but our main impediment is to make this facility user-friendly for teachers.

Comments from Visitation Report

"The "Minimal practical skills-personal notebook" should be tracked and reviewed along the years to evaluate the usefulness of it.

- As the "Minimal skills notebook" was introduced first in 2014, our students found difficult to follow the demands of the procedure of filling it, signing it etc.

- As such, the generation of 2016 graduates only started to present the notebook in a "filled version" and feedbacks returned a mixed situation. Being still an ongoing process, it is difficult to assess the usefulness of this tool right now.

Comments from Visit Report

"...teachers' assessment procedure, since it was implemented in the last two academic years, the role the students play in tracking and improving the quality of the academic activities of the FVMCN should be explained to them"

- The evaluation of the teaching process and the assessment of teachers is explained every year to students by the year tutor, in accordance to the internal regulations (see RC 14 USAMV Carta) and the specific procedure PO-58.
- We noticed a gradual emphasis every year...from students being reluctant initially, we ended up in having quite interesting opinions and feedbacks.
- Student's associations are quite active and represented, also at the level of the Faculty Council- we also included one student from the french section who attends all the meetings (and has voting rights).

EXAMINATIONS

Comments from Visit Report

"a redefinition of the academic year probably will lead to a better balanced period of final examinations...changing the 14 to 15 teaching weeks. More time will be allocated for student's preparation for exams and probably will have a positive impact on student's records and satisfaction"

- So far a change in the structure of the academic year is not possible due to the need for a uniform arrangement for all specializations.
- This would also call for changes in the curriculum of the faculty (and the title list too).
- The internal regulations state the structure of the semester as "comprising 14 weeks of teaching activity and 3-4 weeks of session/evaluation".
- In order to allow some time to prepare for the exams, the University Management decided to slightly change the structure of the academic year for the 2016-2017, in such a manner that in between of the regular summer session (June) and the next retake session a minimum of 60 days is required, so students can better accumulate and deepen their knowledge.

Comments from Visit Report

"Preclinical should be based on written exams and clinical on structured practical"

- As national regulations stated by ARCIS have to be respected, we follow a certain framing in order to meet these demands. Here we have a clear stipulation for the number of exams allowed for an academic year, the type of examination and all the technical issues that are under surveillance of the QA body in its periodic evaluation (every 5 years)
- As most of the preclinicals have an important practical part, the direct oral and practical examination of the students is in most of the cases preferred. This leads to a more direct

and complex type of assessment, with direct interaction with the examiner and with better results.

- As an adaptative change (due high load of examination hours, large number of student groups), in some Departments the evaluation method has changed, from an oral examination to a written one (eg. Microbiology).

Comments from Visit Report

"external examiners"

- The use of external examiners is not a regular practice, the regulations stating clearly that the teacher/s in charge is/are compelled directly and are responsible for the evaluation of their students.

Comments from Visit Report

"Teachers should be careful with the publication of the results of examinations and assessments taking into account the rules and laws that protect the publication of personal data"

- Legislative and regulametary issues refer to the publication of the results of the examinations as "public" in a public institution for increase of transparency.
- More than that, we have to publish on the "website and display panels" all the results of the students, including the the annual situation (averages and sum of credits acquired throughout the academic year (internal regulations at the level of the University).
- We know the situations with some "personal sensibilities", expressed mainly by some of the students from the English section but the public character of the evaluations should be respected though.
- In a general manner, the direct display of the results on the English section website has been ceased, in the same time with the gradual shifting towards the wide use of the main faculty website.
- Once the eLearning system started, the communication of the grades and grading issues was heavily simplified.
- Supplementary, the students have access to the intranet accounts where the overall gradings are displayed..the only problem is that students tend not to use the system invoking "difficulties related to passwording" or logging on the basis of ID/pass serials.

Comments from Visit Report

"Rather than use a minimum number of credits to be achieved by the student in order to progress to the next study year, it might be more convenient to prepare a list of subjects which, if not passed, would preclude progress to the next year"

- The topic has been intensively debated over the years several times. There is a strong current towards such a policy, but we are facing another issue of regulating historical facts referring the policy of annual progression.
- Issues appear when the results of students were not satisfactory and ended up in realising that a significant quota had historical credited exams that they were not capable of dealing with. As such, mainly the Student's Unions asked for a simple application of the actual regulations that calls for the minimum number of credits accumulated, regardless of the exam in discussion (the 36 credits policy)

- Faculty of Veterinary Medicine is aware of the fact that this system is not favoring a systematic buildup of knowledge and practical skills, mainly related to a natural “flow” of the didactic process and attempts to move the emphasis towards the suggested items
- The recent decision of the Faculty’s Council (May 2016) approaches the problematics of the historical credits and it has been decided to intervene at the level of the University Senate in order to establish a much clearer pathway for the progression of the students in academic years. The main idea is to set the possibility of dealing with the -24 credits within the limits of a maximum 2 years from the normal progression (eg. Anatomy of the 1-st year should not be postponed more than the end of the 3-rd year)
- Hopefully this measure is to be adopted, in a transitional manner, for the academic year 2016-2017, leading us to the desired clarification.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

Comments from Visit Report

“Cojocna teaching farm should be developed as a site to show best practice in zootechnical and herd health”

- As the status of Cojocna farm is not only FMV dependent, several issues are addressed to the General Management that has to deal with all the demands for all specializations within the University.
- Constant efforts are being made so Cojocna Unit can play a significant role in the theoretical and practical training of all our students
- The efforts are concentrated also there is the possible development of other units belonging to USAMV Cluj, as the one in Jucu (where another significant project -the Institute for Horse Pathology and Nutrition is in the phase of projection).

CLINICAL FACILITIES & ORGANISATION

Comments from Visit Report

“the radiological equipment does not meet the standards as defined in the SOP, particularly for the equine radiology”

- As a result of the evaluation, FMV Cluj took serious efforts in order to meet the desired standards. As such, major pieces of equipment were bought, a designed space has been allotted for the large animal radiology unit
- For all details, please see the chapter referring to the “Major deficiency”

Comments from Visitation Report

“The rationale for the organisation of the clinics and the definition of the activities of the clinical “specialities” is not clear and does not appear to be strictly based on professional or teaching considerations (see for instance the two surgical departments, or the important role of the dermatology, in regard to other disciplines that should be developed in a veterinary faculty (cardiology, oncology, ophthalmology, etc).

- Regularly, the importance of one or another clinical specialty is assessed, and, depending on the staff’s involvement, the focus goes towards one or another specialty.
- The establishment of a Dermatology Unit was the result of the enthusiasm and the involvement of the team in Parasitology Department that was dealing with a high

number of cases. The teachers became somehow a “regional referral team” for several clinics in our region.

- The teaching staff plays an important role, their desire and commitment being a major factor in the establishment of a so-called specialty. For example, the existence of a teacher (nowadays a EVCTS Diplomate- dr Mihalca Andrei) (who was dealing with exotic species as a hobby along its main Parasitology specialization) willing to start a Exotic Animal Practice was the spark that led to the establishment of [this Unit](#). Same applies for another colleague (internist) that was dealing with more complicated cardiological issues, so he ended up in being one of our potential candidates for EVCTS residentiate. A similar situation is found in the case of the Dialysis Unit or the Dermatology clinic (that started from a initiative)

Comments from Visitation Report

“The degree of specialization and list of services should be enhanced in order to bring more patients to the hospital (case mix and skill mix for the teachers and the students) and more cases for the clinical teaching”

- The faculty is in permanent search for the widening of its services in order to better fit the demands of the owners.
- Efforts are being made to sustain the “successful” clinical departments, stimulation of the clinical activity and the direct reward of clinical excellence being among the priority goals of the actual management.

Comments from Visitation Report

The rules of collaboration with the clinical staff and the coordination of teaching are not clearly defined.

“...coordination between the Emergency hospital and the clinics for the overnight care of patients is not clearly defined”

“The patients / clients paths through the Emergency hospital and later through the clinics should be more clearly established, and based on the needs of the patients. The organisation of the Hospital should follow this principle, and be under the lead of an overall hospital director, rather than every clinic”

- The procedures for the activity in the clinical departments were lately set into a “[internal regulation manual](#)” referring to the clinical activities within the Faculty.
- The set of documents (elaborated late 2014) started to be implemented in the 2015-2016 academic year and it is still in power.
- The regulations clearly establish the rules to be followed in case of the patient admission into clinics, the way that the doctor on call should call another specialist, especially during the night, but also in daytime.
- Several issues will be clarified in 2016-2017, mainly the possibility of direct reward of clinical excellence and differentiation in expenditures and overhead taxation for the clinical activity.

Comments from Visitation Report

“The development of clinical specialization...should be coordinated with the establishment of residencies and internships (rotations of the assistants and clinical PhD)”

- After the EAEVE evaluation in 2014, with the existing specialization program in Companion Animals (internship), another 7-persons internship program for equine medicine has been set up (2016).
- So far the interns are in their last stage of specialization, at the end of the training, the Faculty issuing a Certificate under the aegis of National Education Ministry.

Comments from Visitation Report

"There is a need to shift towards a centralized case record system, with electronic register control included in a larger network and adequate case management system"

- The issue has been addressed in the [chapter referring to Clinical Sciences](#) with confidence that the present situation will improve gradually.

ANIMALS AND TEACHING MATERIAL OF ANIMAL ORIGIN

Comments from Visitation Report

"An advertising / communication plan to increase clinical caseload should be considered"

"Increasing the value of animals referred could allow more complicated investigations to be undertaken"

- The present economic situation acts somehow against such an ideal.
- It is clear that the valuable animals we deal with, the more interesting type of evaluations and methods we can use.
- As a proof for that, the relative prohibitive price for a CT scan showed that highly valuable dogs (that prior to the purchase of the machine were usually sent to Budapest colleagues or in human hospitals) started to be presented for several types of investigations.
- In time, as our faculty will start to specialize staff for this activity only and manages to hire on a permanent position a specialized technician, will become for sure a referral center.
- Similarly, the establishment of a [Horse Unit](#) (as mentioned in the first part of the Report) was a proof for the presence of more and more valuable individuals (and, consequently more and sophisticated investigations).
- Similarly, the establishment of an [Exotic Animal Clinic](#) brought a significant increase of the casuistry for this range of species.
- The results are still uncertain but our hope is for the best in this case too, but the slightly increasing of the caseloads, the commitment of the younger teachers and the increasing demands of the students make the faculty more visible, not only on a local scale but on a regional one, reaching the desired status of "referral clinic".
- There is an active presence of our faculty in several types of events that are associated with animals (see [Human-animal Interaction- Faculty of Psychology/UBB University Cluj](#), Agribusiness events, local and regional Agricultural Fairs, informative campaigns in high schools, Internet website).

Comments from Visit Report

“Improvements to the carcass handling facilities by extending the hoist track and increasing the width and height of doorways may encourage further clinical cases and necropsies to be performed”

- This item [has been addressed earlier in this report](#) and, for the moment there is an ongoing process of evaluation for the structural issues associated to the hoisting system.

Comments from Visitation Report

“Depending on the examinations and procedures that are carried out the welfare of animals in the Biobase needs to be carefully monitored”

- As stated in the report, [the newly established biobase](#) (founded in 2016 on the basis of the latest regulations in the field) meets all the standards, including the welfare standards imposed by the international and national regulations. [The Comitee for Welfare and Bioethics](#) (University body) is in charge with the constant fulfillment of the welfare issues addressed here.

Comments from Visit Report

“Use of the greater number of animals at Cojocna or Jucu or rotation of animals from Cojocna or Jucu into the Biobase for short periods of time needs to be considered”

- This is a usual procedure, but decision on the rotation of animals is taken by the person responsible of the hospital, in accordance to the demands of the Departments.
- It is a habit not to move animals in good-weather conditions but to go directly in the farm if possible in order to have direct contact with the animal in its usual environment.

Comments from Visitation Report

“Consideration should be given to which department provides diagnostic support for clinical activity and this could be consolidated under one leadership whilst still allowing access to all for research and teaching purposes”

- The importance of laboratory diagnostic providers has led to some differentiations within the departments, according to the main focus of their activity
- There is a pathological diagnostic facility (Pathology Department) that provides histopathological and cytological diagnostics, another haematological unit (as a part of Pathophysiology Department), Microbiology Diagnostic and another Biochemistry Diagnostic unit (the old one, that was the main provider of services, under the coordination of Internal Medicine Department and Biochemistry Department), most of them are included in Paraclinic Department.
- These facilities are offered to clinicians and are regulated by the newly-set “Regulation of Clinical Activities” that was put into power in 2015.
- There is intention in the future to make a center of diagnostic and services within the faculty, with independent management, to serve for teaching, research and veterinary services.

LIBRARY AND LEARNING RESOURCES

Comments from Visitation Report

"The team gained the impression that the Faculty has not felt pressure to provide up-to-date library and IT facilities because teaching methods have been traditional and students have had access to course text- books written by teaching staff. But the introduction of more modern, IT-based learning patterns requires that students and staff have better access via wi-fi both to a Faculty intranet and to modern, IT-friendly library facilities. The team urges the Faculty to use the opportunity presented by the opening of the new library to encourage and promote the introduction of e-learning, especially by junior teaching staff"

- As a result of EAEVE recommendations, the Faculty's Management decided to start the implementation of the e-learning system. As we speak, the system is implemented for students of the english section, some years of the french section and the first and second year of the romanian section. Hopefully, as more and more teachers are skilled in computers, the system will grow progressively.
- [The free Wi-Fi access](#) within the premises of the university.
- [The new library](#) has been inaugurated in 2016.
- The number of accessible databases (library) as well as books has increased in the last 2-3 years constantly.
- It is the obligation of teachers to have a basic set of materials that have to be presented to students as instructional materials and other learning aids onto the [elearning platform](#) or the [university's intranet](#).

STUDENT ADMISSION AND ENROLLMENT

Comments from Visitation Report

"Concerning the admission and enrolment, Faculty orientation to increase the quality of teaching-learning activities should be put in correlation to their tendency to reduce the number of enrolled students, national need of veterinarians, teacher/student ratio and financial resources"

Comments from Visitation Report

- The improvement of the teaching process is a constant concern of the Faculty. Teachers are permanently asked to adapt the methods to the new demands and the situation of the school population (that underwent a major change in the last 20 years).
- The struggle to increase quality and to maintain financing in accordance with the market demands is on the top list of the entire University, every year the financing of the Education is being discussed at the level of the National Government.

Comments from Visitation Report

"The team suggests that a group should be formed to analyse the preconditions for student enrolment. Introduction of intensive preliminary training in deficient areas of knowledge would be welcomed. These should be mentioned in the curriculum as elective ECTS for students who voluntarily enrol"

"The possible introduction of motivation admission letter/essay for Romanian study line should be discussed"

- As our prospective students are not (yet) very familiar with this kind of approach, the Faculty Council considered useful the use of some “universal/classical” school books as reference for the acquisition of basic knowledge in field of chemistry and biology.
- Admission to the Romanian line is based on a multiple choice test (30%)(highschool biology and chemistry) and grade from baccalaureate (70%).
- Unlike the international students- that mostly do not lack basic chemistry (see the case of “*preparatoire*”) the motivation letter and proof of volunteer activity in the field of veterinary medicine or related activities seemed to be more appropriate
- It is still an “open discussion” whether for the romanian students a similar approach should be implemented.

Comments from Visitation Report

“Results of changes in selection process should be monitored regularly in order to make admission procedure more effective. More efforts should be put towards Education Ministry to show that study in veterinary medicine requires a higher education entrance qualification”

- There is an analysis of the results in student dynamics, but it is a little early to draw strong conclusions. It has been proved that the admission procedures brought a smaller drop off rate in the first 2 years of study but it is yet uncertain about the longer-term effects
- Lately, most of the veterinary schools in Romania introduced an admission test (more or less similar to ours), as a proof of need for a much better prepared potential students
- More than that, lately, the decision of the increase of the weight of the admission test (from 15% to 30 % overall) and the changes in the chemistry test make these long term effects impossible to preview in the perspective of exact figures, but salutary for the quality of our students.

Comments from Visitation Report

“For students with social or other disadvantages additional supports before entry should be performed”

- The body that is involved lately in the pre-admission procedures is the Center for Counseling and Career Opportunities (CCOC) that can, in a certain extent, offer several type of counseling, starting from potential career opportunities as student in our university, several aptitude tests, psychological evaluations and counseling, tutorial activity in order to better understand the challenges of student life and the demands of a certain specialization.
- The “Open Gates Week” offer a good opportunity for the prospective candidates or their teachers to contact and approach our structures and personnel in order to handle also a potential “problematic situation”
- As the University is not able to directly offer support (and here mainly a financial one is implied), the “levers” used generally are the ones that are somehow traditional approaches towards the potential candidates. The typical social supports are offered to disadvantaged students in case they get accepted (free housing, scholarships).

Comments from Visitation Report

“In order to improve student progress through their studies, the Faculty should provide a better tutorial system allowing students to seek guidance and advice during their studies. The system for

identifying students having academic or other difficulties may need to be better developed. Alongside carrying out academic commitments, it also should provide an opportunity to master communication, presentation, organisational and life skills that help a student to build a satisfying and fulfilling life and career"

- An important emphasis is laid upon the role of the "year coordinator" that has an increasingly importance in the last years, being involved not only in the coordination of the "freshmen's" but also in the tutorial and counseling activities, in identifying the problematic situations with his/her students. Lately, the year coordinator played an important role in the management of difficult situations of integration of some foreign students, together with the specialists of CCOC (see the case of french students and the crisis-cell set in Cluj by the French Institute).
- On the other hand, students themselves are important in handling "non-academic issues", the example of the "intercultural evenings" organized by french (first) and then joined by english section students must be mentioned. In 2015 they were joined as well by the romanian students members of ASMV (veterinary students association affiliated to our faculty) to organize several events (freshmen's party/welcome party, evening meetings in USAMV's Pub, Easter Party etc...)
- For other special situations, a psychologist is available on an appointment-basis (CCOC-employed)

ACADEMIC AND SUPPORT STAFF

Comments from Visitation Report

"Aim for one member of staff to be enrolled in a European specialist residency for each clinical area taught / department so each area has exposure to the ethos of such training. To accelerate the process external residencies for more senior staff in other recognised training centres should be funded by the University"

- The requirement for European Diplomates/Specialists has been clearly understood by the management of the faculty. As such, there is a visible trend among the younger teachers of the faculty for the accession into a Residentiate Programme (see below).
- Nowadays the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine is committed by contractual arrangements to provide financial support (transportation, accommodation, residentiate tax and attending conferences in the training program of residentiate) for teachers accepted in this type of training programs.
- The procedure is tough complicated and time-consuming, having in mind the fact that each teacher is over-charged with teaching duties (due the shortage in personnel and remuneration issues) and the specialization stages are long, especially if agreed on a part-time model.
- In the period after the EAEVE evaluation in late 2014, another three persons were accepted for such a specialization, while another three (Sarpataky Orsolya- Clinical Pathology, Budapest/Scurtu Iuliu- Cardiology/TelAviv, Dr. Bel Lucia -Exotic animals/Rome, Clinica Pei Animalii Exotici- Paolo Seleri) are still in the procedure for getting accepted into a residential process
- The colleagues enrolled now:
 - Dr. Beteg Florin (Small Animal Surgery Vet Med UNiWien_prof Gilles Dupre- due in 2019)
 - Dr. Taulescu Marian (Pathology- University of Milano, Prof Paola Rocca- due in 2017)
 - Dr Ober Ciprian (Small animal surgery- Koreth School of Veterinary Medicine- due in 2019)

- Pavaloiu Alexandra (Equine Internal Medicine, Wien due in 2018)

Comments from Visit Report

“Review promotion criteria and, if needed, discuss with central government the needs to recognise clinical as well as teaching and research activity in promotion within the Veterinary field”

- There is a permanent preoccupation of the Faculty's Council to find rewarding methods for the teaching personnel that is involved into the clinical activity as the legislation allows uniform wages for a certain teaching position, regardless of type of activity (either clinician, non clinician or other specialization). There is a certain degree of minimal and maximal waging allowed, but once the mainbody (this case the University) decides to use it, it has to be applied accordingly (vets, agronomists, engineers, etc)
- Lately, due to the existence of a “internal grading system” meant for the evaluation of the teaching staff (both from the professional aspect and the scientific as well) that is applied at the level of the entire University, a much and much stronger tendency is expressed towards the specific items for the evaluation (and rewarding) of the veterinary teaching staff (that has other types of duties than an agronomist), and especially for the recognition of the clinical charge (expressed by the number of clinical sheets/surgical interventions etc for a certain person) in comparison to the emphasis towards scientific research for a pre clinician.
- The scores obtained by each teacher are assessed yearly and also in case of promotions (see the internal regulations RC 37)

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Comments from Visit Report

“The CE activities of the staff could be included in a more active “public relations” and “fund raising” policy of the faculty and / or the departments. This could include first lecturing experiences for PhD and residents / specialists, particularly in the clinical disciplines, in order to enhance the network and referral basis of the clinics”

- The Continuing Education program developed within FMV Cluj-Napoca is part of a National Program of Continuing Education (NPCE) designed & supervised by General Association of Veterinarians from Romania (GAVR) and the College of Veterinarians from Romania (CVR), starting from 2005.
- The Program consisting in a number of minimum 4-6 Seminars per year, during which various subjects from different clinical, pathological, food safety and laboratory disciplines are presented by the academic staff from the faculty.
- The Seminars are developed in close collaboration with the staff of local branch of the GAVR and CVR, as well as with the participation of the practitioners from different area of veterinary clinical practice, food safety and laboratory investigations, addressing topics related to the physiology and pathology of farm animals (bovine, pig, sheep, goat), companion animals (horse, dog, cat), birds, and even wild or exotic animals.
- The FMV Cluj-Napoca is responsible for organizing this NPCE in 11 counties from the region of Transylvania, and both the academic staff and the PhD students are involved, particularly from clinical (Internal Medicine, Obstetrics and Reproduction, Infectious and Parasitic diseases) and preclinical disciplines (Anatomical Pathology and Necropsy, Pathophysiology, Pharmacology, Microbiology, Hygiene, Food safety) and so on.

- The Program offers a good opportunity to the PhD students and to residents to develop their own lectures and courses, as first lecturing experience, in the topic of their discipline or clinical specialization.

| Clinical & Paraclinical Disciplines involved in NPCE | Junior Clinical/Para-clinical Training staff (Interns & Residents) | Senior Clinical/ Paraclinical Training staff (Academic staff) | DVM | Academic title or Diploma of training staff |
|--|--|---|-----|---|
| Large and small Animal internal pathology | 1 | 2 | - | DVM, PhD |
| Large and small animal clinical surgery | - | 2 | - | DVM, PhD |
| Animal Obstetrics and pathology of reproduction | - | 3 | - | DVM, PhD |
| Infectious diseases | - | 2 | 1 | DVM, PhD |
| Parasitic diseases | 1 | 3 | - | |
| Diagnostic imaging | - | 1 | - | DVM, PhD |
| Necropsy and Pathology | - | 3 | - | DVM, PhD |
| Veterinary toxicology | - | 1 | - | DVM, PhD |
| Equine physiological & pathological subjects | 2 | 1 | 2 | DVM, PhD |
| Anaesthesia and Analgesia in Animals | 1 | 3 | - | DVM, PhD |
| Clinical laboratory investigations in animals | 1 | 2 | - | DVM, PhD |
| Sistemic pathophysiology | 1 | 1 | - | DVM, PhD |
| Ethology & Ethopathology | - | 1 | - | DVM, PhD |
| Hygiene & Animal welfare | - | 1 | - | DVM, PhD |
| Food safety | 1 | 2 | - | DVM, PhD |
| Animal nutrition | - | 1 | - | DVM, PhD |
| Pharmacotherapy | - | 1 | 3 | DVM, PhD |

Academic staff, interns, residents and DVM involved in carrying out the Seminars within National Program of Continuing Education (NPCE) – Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca.

POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

Comments from Visit Report

“There is an obvious need to increase EBVS-linked residency training programs. USAMVCN and/or FMVCN should devote a budget to fund alternative residency programs”

- From 2014 onwards, FMV Cluj developed a program to support the residential programmes for its staff. This way, the alternative programme of the first 5 residents is sustained by from FMV funds
- Individual contracts were signed (stating that the Faculty is supporting the living costs, fees, participation of the resident to conferences and the endowment of the clinics with the infrastructure in accordance with the demands of the specific specialisation)
- The contracts contain a loyalty clause in favour of FMV Cluj for the following 5 years after the title is obtained
- So far, as only one EVBS diplomate is a member of our staff, organizing a residency program in our school is still a desideratum.

RESEARCH

Comments from Visit Report

"A collaborative approach to opportunities for student research should be strongly supported by the FMVCN authorities and offered for the students. Generally, it is evident that FMVCN has clear ideas in expanding opportunities for student participation in research activities. The Life Sciences Centre should be followed as a positive example for providing a stimulating environment for student involvement in relevant research"

- Students are permanently stimulated by teachers to attend regularly the research and diagnostic activities, mainly as members of the research teams within the frame of the national research programmes (PN2,PN3).
- In several departments there is a traditional approach for some research topics (see physiopathology, neurosciences, microbiology, pathological anatomy etc)
- These activities are usually finalized as research papers and presentations in the frame of the national or international student symposia, graduation papers while some may continue their research track towards doctoral studies.
- The Faculty management is fully aware of the fact that there is a long way to reach the full involvement of the students into the research and diagnostic activities, a newer regulation of our university stating a much deeper involvement of the teachers and tutors of our faculty into the counseling and tutorial didactical activities organized by the institution is being implemented.

ESEVT INDICATORS

R 5

- The problem of the support staff is still a pressing issue
- Due to the late limitation in state-subsidized institutions in terms of hiring, the number of support-staff remained sub dimensioned.
- a series of new positions were created, leading to the possibility of the increase of the technicians/support staff.
 - 1 new vet for the ER in 2015 and 2 associated vets (Dep II and III)(2016)
 - 1 support staff position in Dep II in 2016
 - 4 research assistants in 2015 and 5 research assistant in 2016
 - 1 technician in 2016

- In order to fill the missing spots, a number of associated support staff was used (not persons directly employed by University, but on a specific contractual-basis for a limited amount of time)- 3 caregivers in the hospital
- 1 new position in the secretariate (for English and French section)-(approved in 2016, to be filled soon)
- During 2015, as we have started a training program for veterinary technicians, a number of 13 persons being assigned on a rotation basis as support staff, with a reduced time quota
- A half-time position for a technician in radiology Department (mainly covering the duties for the CT scan) (contract-based)
- Even so, the values for R5 are still unsatisfactory, a supplementary number of 5-6 FTE being necessary to fully meet the demands.

R 14

- In order to meet this requirement, a minimum number of 280 equine cases should be presented in our clinic.
- The overall entries (as marked in our electronic registry) shows a total of more than 400 for the calendaristic year 2015-2016 and for 2016-2017 (to the present moment-September 2016) a total of 240 entries
- As the Equine Unit was established, the visible increase of the surgical interventions is noticed (from 60 in 2014, 110 in 2015 and 109 up until now-sept 2016).
- We are confident that at the end of the year (as the academic year starts at 1-st of October and usually the month of august is scarce in cases) we can fully meet the minimum number of equine cases

MAJOR PIECES OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES SINCE 2014

STUDENT FACILITIES- CLOAKROOM

- 2 large spaces that are meant as student facilities, each of them of 122 sqm, equipped

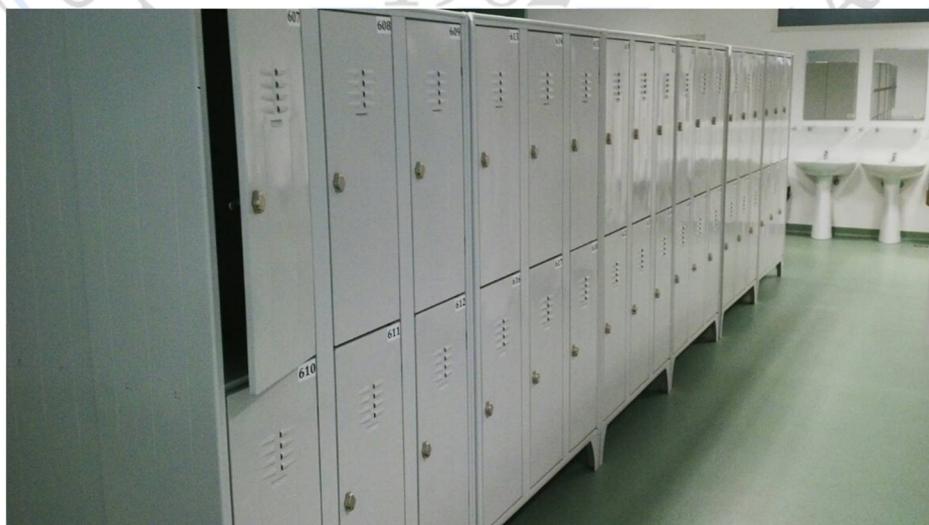


FIGURE 6 CLOAKROOM-STUDENTS

with over 400 individual lockers for the students in clinics (IV-th year, V-th year and VI-th year)



FIGURE 7 STUDENT FACILITIES

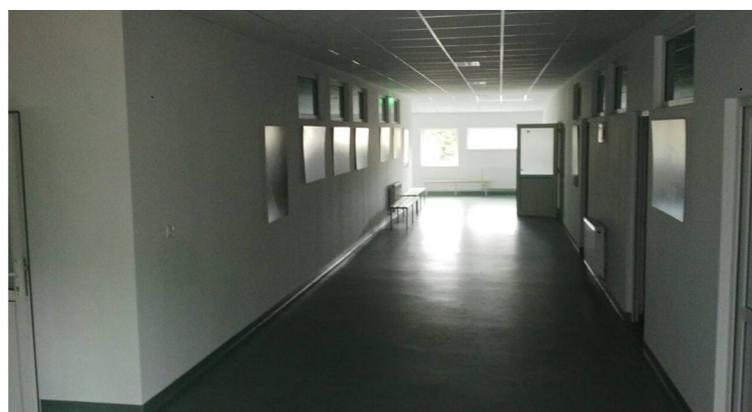


FIGURE 8 STUDENT AND STAFF FACILITIES

- Toilets and showers- over 90 sqm with 6-9 individual shower cabins each

Access to the student cloakrooms/lockers is regulated by 2 distinctive pathways ([see the link to the FMV's that illustrates these pathways](#))

1. The "dirty access"- that starts from the back of the building, through the stairways nr 2, then to the small filter area/cleaning area and then through the small hallway into the gender-designated space (male/female rooms). The exit pathway continues with the "clean access" pathway through the main corridor to the staircase no 1 that leads near the emergency room entrance, at the side of the building

2. The "clean access"- starts from the staircase no 1, into the cloakroom, and after the change of the equipment, each student follows the reversed pathway from the one described above (dirty).

STUDENT/CLINICS FACILITIES/RESTROOMS CLOSE TO EMERGENCY UNIT

Spaces that are allotted as restrooms for doctors and students in their shift in ER comprising:

- Restrooms- 3 rooms, each about 20 sqm with facilities to sleep 5-15 persons
- Cloakrooms for teaching and clinical staff- 2x25 sqm = 50 sqm (with lockers, toilets and shower cabins)

STUDENT FACILITIES- LECTURE HALLS

- In 2015 the 2 new modular lecture halls were inaugurated. The overall space situated in the area above the Emergency Hospital has 50 seating places each, with mobile



FIGURE 10 LECTURE HALL NO 1



FIGURE 9 STUDENT'S ASSOCIATION ROOM/COUNCIL ROOM

whiteboards, OHP facilities and internet connection.

- The rooms were furnished with writing pad chairs, several desks and storage facilities. There is a teacher's bench in each and also several coat racks.

- The surface of the lecture halls is 2x91 sqm, with a total of 182 sqm. The hallway (central part) leading

towards the stairways nr 3 has about 35 sqm.

Other facilities in the same area

- Council room/student association's room- furnished with a large table (meeting)
- IT facility room- about 15 sqm hosting the IT equipment necessary for the establishment and functionality of the internet network in the building
- Storage room

The overall amount spent for the construction of the entire assembly of structures listed so far (which is in fact an entire floor constructed over the old hospital wing) is more than 650.000 Euro, not calculating the



FIGURE 11 HORSE HOSPITAL-RENEWALS

costs for furnishing and final touches.

FACULTY HOSPITAL AREAS

- Areas of the horse, small ruminants and swine were renewed/repared
- New ventilation systems were installed
- New doorways and sliding doors system was installed in horse hospital
- Storage/technical spaces were established

BIOBASE

- The biobase has maximum accommodation capacity of 200 rats, 550 mice, 30 rabbits, 8 pigs, and 25 chickens.
- In Romania, starting from 2015 all the laboratory animal establishments require accreditation from the veterinary authorities.

At this time (september 2016), the biobase is into the accreditation process; therefore it already benefits from significant investments.

- The air conditioning system is totally new.
- All the rooms were renovated at the required standards.
- The spaces allocated to the biobase consist of
 - cloakroom,
 - filter room,
 - restroom with shower,
 - cleaning room (for equipments and cages),
 - storage room,
 - laboratory, and
 - individual housing rooms for each specie .
- The entire complex has a surface of 69.7 m².
- A separate building of 50.45 m² is dedicated to quarantine area and isolation area for animal contaminated with contagious disease.
- A responsible has been assigned in the person of Dr. Bogdan Sevastre, Associate Professor at the Department of Physiopathology.
- Depending on the examinations and procedures that are carried out, the welfare of animals in the Biobase is carefully monitored, in respect to elaborated procedures following legal



FIGURE 14 BIOBASE-RENEWALS



FIGURE 14 BIOBASE-RENEWALS



FIGURE 14 BIOBASE-RENEWALS

regulation. According to Law 43/2015 (the national law transposing the Directive 2010/63/EU) the scientific and educational projects, carried out on laboratory animals, are performed only with the agreement of Committee for Bioethics and Ethics of Scientific Research of UASVM and the authorization of State Veterinary Authorities. The activity in the biobase (procedures required by educational and scientific projects, animal's health and welfare) is supervised by the Animal Welfare Body

HOSPITALIZATION AREA AND CONSULTATION ROOMS FOR EXOTIC SPECIES

- The area of the Clinic of the New Pet Species is divided into 3 rooms
 - a consultation room and
 - 2 hospitalisation rooms, with one of them being used for quarantine, equipped with a thermostat system, incubator, inhouse VetScan biochemistry analyser and



FIGURE 15 CONSULTATION ROOM FOR EXOTICS

other utilities and equipment specific for exotic animals.

- The hospitalisation is sufficient for 16 reptiles, 10 small mammals and up to 10 birds, depending on their size.



FIGURE 16 MANEGE

EQUINE UNIT

The separate unit- the equestrian clinic- has an integrated surgical unit with modern anesthetic utilities, equipment for the abdominal surgery (colics, C-sections), orthopedics (arthroscope), squeeze chute/crush for evaluation of the patients, imaging devices (state of the art echographic devices, RX)

The hospitalization area consists of 6 hospitalization shelters and an isolation facility,

with all the amenities for therapy and ozone therapy device.

A separate restroom for the staff and students on-call has been assigned.

An external space (manege) was built that serves for the admission of patients, post-interventional care and surveillance as well as small-surgical interventions (stomatology, minor wounds, etc).

The surface of the manege is about 200 sqm and it was established into the main yard in the area of the FMV's clinics.

The overall investment for the manege and squeeze chute (including all repairs and improvements- sewerage, sidewalks, etc) was about 160.000 euro.

LIBRARY BUILDING- OPENED LATE 2015

- The university main library consists of :
 - at 1-st floor - a room for individual learning with 62 places (160 mp),
 - at 2-nd floor - a room for individual learning with 150 places (480 mp),
 - at 3-rd floor -
 - a reading room with 142 places (630 mp) with free access to books and journals,
 - a room with 30 computers with internet connection,

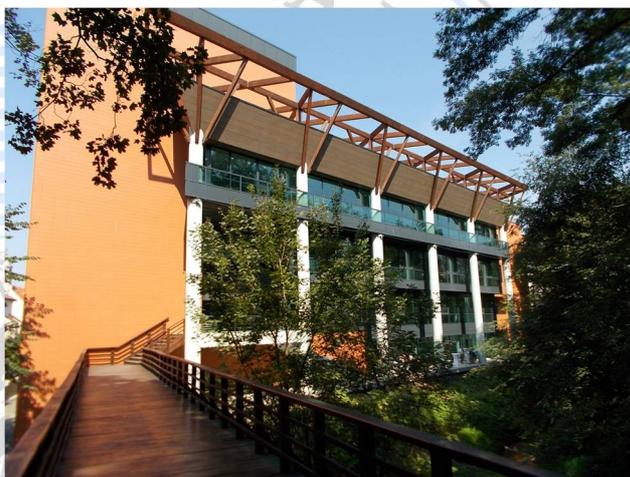


FIGURE 17 NEW LIBRARY BUILDING



FIGURE 18 LIBRARY BUILDING- RECEPTION HALL

- an amphitheater with 160 places,
- working areas for librarians and storage rooms for books and journals.

- Wireless internet connection is provided in all the main library areas.
- The library currently employs 10 full-time staff members. These are professional librarians with academic degrees (3 with Horticulture degrees, 3 with Agriculture degrees, 2 with Biology degrees, 1 with degrees in Philology and 1 with degrees in Automation and Computer Sciences).

● In 2015 the library received 832 hard copy journals and periodicals and the number of full access electronic journals is 15550.

- The electronical resources and databases for Veterinary Medicine are:
 - PROQUEST Central
 - Thomson ISI - Web of Science

- Thomson ISI - Journal Citation Report
- Thomson ISI - Derwent Innovation Index



FIGURE 19 LIBRARY BUILDING-READING ROOM

- In 2015 the textbook collection of the library contained 10706 books for Veterinary Medicine.
- Currently (as on December 31, 2015), the library collection comprises 128277 books (in volumes), 43275 periodicals (in volumes), 4 databases (in titles), 15550 e-periodicals (in titles) and 186 e-books and 7 on-line Encyclopaedias.
- Currently the library of the USAMVC-N offers 354 reading places : a reading room with free access to books on shelves (142 seats) for students and teachers and two rooms for individual learning with 212 seats.
- The library is open from Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. during the study year.
- The approximate cost for the construction and furnishing of the entire building was 5,6 million euros and it was entirely financed from the University's funds.

CLINICAL FACILITIES- HAPTIC COW AND COMPUTER-ASSISTED SPERM



FIGURE 20 BOVINE SIMULATOR AND CASA SYSTEM

ANALYSIS (CASA) SYSTEM- REPRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

- Breed 'n' Betsy Deluxe Complete Bovine Simulator – complete simulator for artificial insemination, pregnancy diagnosis, ovary palpation, open reproductive tract palpation/retraction, water rectum, dye checks using real organs and ultra-sounding. It includes several ovaries with various physiological and pathological formations as well as several interchangeable uteri of different sizes and consistencies for pregnancy diagnosis. The water rectum feature provides a very realistic palpation experience. Price - 20,000 euros.
- Holstein Model Dystocia Simulator - Steel reinforced epoxy/fiberglass construction, with water resistant components throughout for ease of cleaning. Matching calf included. Adjustable pneumatic uterine and calf support system, with pump. Includes a clear vinyl uterine bag as well as soft, durable perineum panel, soft removable tail and functional udder with milk tank allowing to have mastitic milk introduced in any quadrant. The polyurethane pelvis replica is extremely realistic. It also includes a padded fetal extractor, obstetric chains and head snare as well as a landing mat (to prevent damage to calf). Price - 40,000 USD



FIGURE 21 DYSTOCIA SIMULATOR

- Sperm Class Analyzer®
Computer Assisted Sperm Analysis (CASA) system comprises 4 modules (concentration and motility, morphology, vitality and fragmentation) that are fully integrated and associated with an extensive database that will allow results import and export in many formats. It allows analysis of sperm from all domestic animals as well as humans. Price 55,400 euros + VAT

CLINICAL FACILITIES

A list of the equipments purchased from 2014 onwards:

| Equipments | Aproximative price (EURO) |
|--|---------------------------|
| Laparoscopic system for ovariectomy in dogs and cats | 20.000 |
| Laparoscopic instruments for small animals | 14.500 |
| Arthroscopic tower for horses and dogs including annexes | 40.000 |
| Scialytic lamp | 2.000 |
| Electrocautery Surtron 200 | 1.600 |
| Electric bone drill | 3.800 |
| Electric sagittal saw | 3.800 |
| Orthopedic instruments | 8.000 |
| Instruments for general surgery | 2.200 |
| Small animal cages (system of three cages) | 2.200 |

| | |
|---|--------|
| Inhalatory anesthesia machine for small animals | 18.000 |
| Inhalatory anesthesia machine for large animals | 18.000 |
| Stomatologic bank | |
| Ophthalmoscope | |
| Scialitic lamps | |
| Surgical lighting systems | |

CLINICAL FACILITIES- MEDICAL GAS NETWORK

- Although existing prior to 2014 visit, the pipeline system was a primitive one, dealing only with the transportation of the external air to the surgical areas.
- Lately, the system improved and was extended in the entire area of the Veterinary clinics (propaedeutics, surgery, reproduction, internal medicine-including haemodialysis service, exotic animals, horse surgical unit).
- The system consists of copper medical pipes and it is served by an oxygen unit with 8 oxygen tanks and a medical compressor unit. Pressure of oxygen is set to 5 bars while the air system holds a 3 bar pressure
- In all spaces there are rapid coupling for oxygen and air as well as pressure reducers and humidifiers

EMERGENCY ROOM- SEPARATE SPACE FOR FELINES (HOSPITALIZATION UNIT)

- In 2015 the space of the entire Emergency Unit was refurbished and renewed (including major works for the main sewage and water system of the entire building and extension



FIGURE 22 FELINE UNIT-EMERGENCY ROOM

- of the medical gas system). The cost of the renovation was about 200.000 euros.
- This included changes in the distribution of space and as a result of the relocation of some units, a separate room for the cat unit has been assigned. Consultation area entirely covers about 30 sqm and contains all facilities- including hospitalization space.

OTHER ENDOWMENTS

- Establishment of a veterinary pharmacy within the premises of the Faculty
- 40 new microscopes for students use

- Automatic bacteriological and mycological diagnosis system with expressing sensitivity



FIGURE 23 BACTERIOLOGICAL AND MYCOLOGICAL DIGNOSIS SYSTEM

to antibiotics and antifungal by MIC (Vitek 2 Compact Equipment 15 Full configuration: computer, printer, UPS, voltage stabilizer) Cost 35 000 Euro.

- Automated titration system (Food Inspection Dept- aprox 12.000 euro)
- Oxigen concentrator (Internal Medicine Department)
- Infusomates (Internal Medicine Department)
- Oxigen concentrators (Internal Medicine Department)

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WIFI NETWORK ON THE ENTIRE PERIMETER OF THE UNIVERSITY

- Early 2016 marked also a major investment in the IT sector at the level of the entire University, leading to the setup of a dedicated Internet network fully accessible for all our students.
- FMV offers its students connecting services in 17 access points within the premises of the faculty's premises- wireless access points with centralized management with constant signal
- The followings standards are met for the wireless connections
 - 802.11 b/g/n, 2.4GHz in all areas covered
- Authentication is made according to 802.1x. Standard, all details being referred to USAMV's IT Department
- Available WiFi networks
 - USAMVnet :network with 802.1x authentication reserved for teachers and staff
 - STUDENT : :network with 802.1x authentication reserved for students with full internet access
- In the near future, we hope to integrate the entire WIFI system into the international EduRoam .(www.eduroam.org) network