Highlighted are the notes that actually made it into the 7th (final) draft of my personal statement.

*VMCAS Prompt: Discuss briefly the development of your interest in veterinary medicine. Discuss those activities and unique experiences that have contributed to your preparation for a professional program. Discuss your understanding of the veterinary medical profession, and discuss your career goals and objectives.*

9/2/14

I have found every aspect of veterinary medicine to be fulfilling in every aspect, not only satisfying my craving for discovery and adventure, but p

Since childhood I have been encouraged all my life to be adventurous, and I have expressed this in my love for outdoors- backpacking and rock climbing, in the kitchen, in my studies, in hobbies, arts and crafts, and in the lab. It goes without saying that I choose a career that offers adventure and stimulation, demands knowledge and creativity. Veterinary medicine excites, surprises, and provides endless opportunity for me to contribute to Human/Animal/Environment INTERFACE. continue learning every day of my life. Throughout my pre-veterinary career I have taken part in many aspects of animal care and veterinary medicine such as (…). Though I have , I know the subdivisions

My mentors-

I immersed myself in the laboratory

My time at DVC- how I made it match

By studying the curriculum lower div ABI and making my time at DVC match it as close as possible. I was angry, worried, and resentful of going to DVC at first, however I believe it is a majorly positive and beneficial time for me. [[use this as a time to describe how I got over the resentment, how I was able to contribute to the Chem Dept) I was able to . By working in the SR. I tutored chem

Because I

I am resourceful and creative.

Public interaction at OZ,

CHem Club gave me more exp in group work, delegation of tasks, leadership, public speaking

I am- organized and dependable. Can be counted on to deliver a great product.

I am passiona and

And confident in my ability to

Even the comfortable clinical life, which I have spent X hours volunteering and shadowing in, provides an amazing array of

My adventurous taste is not of the live-fast die-hard type.

I like the quiet stillness that allows me. That is what gives me a rush.

Passion for ANIMALIA

The more animals I learned existed, the greater my love for the kingdom grew. This trend is something I am happy to report has not plateaued or stopped. X discoveries deep sea, .

BIOMIMICRY

My research exp, intern exp, clinical exp

9/17/14

I believe training in the DVM curriculum will allow me to understand intimately the physiological, descriptive, descriptive, cogs and wheels that make up each Animalian link in the web of life. From my undergraduate experience and academic study in ecology, I have come to the conclusion that the resistance and resilience of an ecosystem—in other words, its strength— is only as strong as its weakest link. Through my short 21 years of life as a nature enthusiast and outdoor adventurer I have both read about and empirically observed declines in wild populations health and numbers. Specific examples esp. of SF Bay Area, working in wildlife rehab, Fix our Ferals “wild” domestic cats. I see that human activity actively degrades (deteriorates?… to twist? Bend?) these precious links.

My ultimate goal is to attain both a DVM and a PhD, wildlife health, conservation and management. As a veterinarian scientist, I wish to investigate these links between humans, animals, and the environment, which is becoming more popularly known as One Health. Describe my recent activity in undergraduate wildlife research, WHC participation, WildCampus participation, raptor center, etc. and ALSO tie into outdoor adventures and my love for wildlife.

My long term goal is to influence public policy through research and education, in the name of protecting the wild creatures of Kingdom Animalia. I hope to become a scientist and clinician.

Using phenomena in wildlife and ecology as models for human medicine, which will allow human activity to better emulate nature and therefore improve the local and global balance of artificial (man made) and natural forces.

9/21/14

My first clinical experience at Fix Our Ferals in Richmond, CA.

Watching the spays and netuer surgeries were

My quick-learning and advanced practice of the newly learned skills and requirements of the volunteer position were recognized by Dr. Heath (the head veterinarian) [[is it OK to mention that she was UCDSVM grad?) and the staff at FoF and I rapidly was trained in the three major medical areas of the hospital: pre-op prep, surgery assisting and post-op recovery. Though I had been there for only one summer, I was entrusted to log the controlled substance (buprenorphine, bup SR, TTD, euthasol). The purpose of the clinic, the TNR philosophy, the reality of the situation we are trying to safdadfa became something I walk and breathe and completely believe in. DATA!! Volunteering at the SF SPCA in the s/n clinic?

. This small animal interest may appear as a deviation… but Everything I do, I do in the name of promoting wildlife conservation. Perhaps by chance, or fate, if one believes in superstition, my 2012 flight to Galapagos also contained a group of vet students also traveling to Galapagos (ask Bradley- was it University of Wisconsin, Madison veterinary students

Also who I bashfully approached

Don’t get me wrong—I love dogs and cats—but I realized, through spay and neuter

The feral cats have become a problem in small islands/isolated communities: their sheer numbers and need to eat are actually causing a threat to the native and endemic birds, lizards, and insect species

Though

Internships at Davis and clinical exp. (perhaps at Springs or Redwood, or with Dr. Gai)

While most other new volunteers acquired skills to

Feral cats and dogs

Some things I made 🡪 notes about were things I was planning to do in the future, how I would phrase it in my essay. I didn’t end up doing this actually.

I returned to the Oakland Zoo to I focused my undergraduate research on the CA condor because they are a species that were on the brink of extinction through which our human intervention were

I used them as a model—our actions as a model—that could potentially help us in future situations.

Assertiveness assertive

Goal: to one day influence public and or global policy regarding wildlife health and conservation, through leadership, research and education.

To set up a biodiversity network similar to the AZMA zoo exchange monitoring wildlife pops in our national parks (this can later be applied to state and regional areas) to maintain species/pops of concern.

To repopulate and maintain gene pools of national parks.

I have found that the most \_\_amazing,\_\_ research comes from the overlap of distinct fields, when masses of knowledge are integrated the outcome are the most amazing discoveries and products. but what interests/turns me on the most is biomimicry. Engineering and biology, technology and chemistry, etc. Using natural phenomena to inspire and guide, and to use as models for man made things.

Spiritual person. not religious

The lion king/ we are one

And integrative knowledge I have gained from many aspects of veterinary medicine

From my experience in many aspects of veterinary medicine—zoological, small animal, wildlife, research— I have integrated knowledge

My practical nature stems from

My academic, research, clinical, and empirical observations as a nature lover has culminated in an Excellent common sense and understanding of natural law— but also of how man can step in and create his own artificial space, pushing and sometimes even breaking the boundary of natural law.

Why I want to pursue a DVM- I <3 the coursework/program- ! only the kind of training a veterinary education provides accomplishes as much to train its students to know an animal so intimately, from the inside out, the physiological cogs and wheels, innate and environmental factors

🡪describe how this will help me understand

Shapes my drive is my love for learning, fascination with an kingdom, diversity, diverse approaches to modern problems, using animal ECOLOGY and BEHAVIOR and PHYSIOLOGY as models for health and biomedical research.

3/2/14

Member of PreVet Students Supporting Diversity Club. Went to Vet Skills Workshop, Case Study With Veterinarians Session, Knights Landing Clinic Vet Student Assistant, Networking for Pre-Vets, and general meetings.

Learning how to suture, read radiographs. Looking at lice, fleas, mites under the microscope...

With my own pets and seeing Human-Animal bond- not only bt people and their pets but with people and the wildlife/fauna of the world- has . I have extensive interactions with and made an impact on both! By working at wildlife rehab, Oakland Zoo internship, CCPH pet hospital, animal shelter (SF SPCA), SMAC organizing events field trips guest spkers etc. in order to connect people to wildlife MY LIFE IS ABOUT INSPIRING THE CONNECTION, PROVIDING THE CARE, and PUSHING FOR CONSERVATION. I've seen puppies come in for their first office visit and assisted with euthanasias . Looking up to Dr. Patton's care for these furred members of the family- she must have seen countless animals through their lives. What an incredible position to be in- to experience such beauty and joy.- as a veterinarian, and I have already tasted that part of VetMed as a preveterinary.

Walking CP and seeing the hum/an bond bt , as well as SENIOR DOG and ALTERNATIVE e.g. acupuncture care.

ALL THESE EXPERIENCES inspired in me innovative ideas regarding the hum/animal bond: Senior Dog pet massage, Hearts Fur Paws rehoming nonprofit, and The Pet Project.

Want to work with Pet Loss Support Hotline. Pet Portraits?

It takes a very good reason for me to miss a chance for exposure to new information, experiences, find out about current issues and support it with history and known knowledge.

attending GRAD group seminars, brown bags, guest lectures in classes and club events, take classes (schedule permitting) to learn things important to the big picture but not necessarily related to my major yet support me in so many other ways.

6/8/15

Tone I want my essay to imbibe:

compassionate

passionate

determined

Globally-minded/conservation

**Thesis: What drives my interest in becoming a veterinarian is the human-animal bond and how I can help that bond to flourish in the most positive way.**

The opening in “Sam’s” abdomen steamed quietly as the surgeon gasped and swore under her breath, finally seeing internally the cause/instigator [opposite of victim? instigator] of “Sam’s” plummeting weight over the past few weeks. My eyes widened in a mixed state of horror and fascination as she proceeded to extract a grossly lumpy, purplish organ the size of a T-bone steak from Sam’s body, the cancerous spleen that had been slowly drawing life from a dog who was so loved by her family that her “father” had left work early just to see her before the surgery, which was just put on the schedule/scheduled that same day.

I stuck with sweet, gentle Sam through the night, keeping track of her condition and intravenous fluids. The young but massive Bernese Mountain Dog groaned and whined, and I offered as much verbal and tactile comfort as I could, knowing that it was Dr. Patton who had provided the true/and lasting relief through the surprise Saturday splenectomy.

“Sam’s” case was a major eye-opener for me, and not only in [splenic] horror and in fascination. I had observed the progression of Sam’s declining health and met the children who accompanied their mother to Sam’s veterinary appointments. I had held Sam during the ultrasound that revealed her bleeding spleen, where I strained to hear the gears turn in Dr. Patton’s head until she said surgery today as soon as possible would save this dogs life. Most importantly, I was impacted by the comfort Dr. Patton was able to offer not only to Sam that day, but also to Sam’s family throughout the process. /descriptors/ through her directness and assurance as she explanation of the conditions and situation.

After several years and experiences preparing and envisioning myself to be a wildlife research veterinarian that would change public policies in favor of endangered species conservation, Sam Bovill opened a gate to great internal confusion: I suddenly felt a huge draw towards small animal medicine. This nagged at me for weeks until I finally realized that it is not a certain type or group of animals that drives me towards veterinary medicine. In all capacities, it is my fascination and love for the human-animal bond. Be it the connection between an 18-year old girl and the dog she grew up with since childhood, between a father pointing out a squirrel to his son in the park, between a grocery-store shopper deciding whether to buy chicken or fish, or between an impassioned college student and the critically endangered black rhinocerous, I realize I have appreciated the breadth and depth of the human-animal bond and have always strived to better understand and reinforce it.

I have found myself to be a channel for animals to be better understood by people. In high school I organized tidepooling trips, guest speaker events, . I had been the first to have backyard chickens in my neighborhood and encouraged the interest in my friends. Spending 12 days in the Galapagos Islands and Ecuador gave me 12 days of firsthand insight into how another country views its animal cohabitants.

As a zookeeper intern at the Oakland Zoo I always made it a point to interact with guests. I encouraged questions as I fed birds in the aviaries, and always tossed the mealworms in the air for the Blue-Bellied Rollers to catch mid-flight. This was not only enriching for the Rollers, but was a very simple way to help people connect their common name to their flight pattern/ involving mid-air rotations. I loved bringing the flat pancake tortoises out for sun while talking to guests about their interesting biology. I was not so confident about answering questions about the zebras, so I started observing and reading up on their natural history. This eventually led to a personal project where I compiled my observations and background research into a zebra body language guidebook for my fellow zoo staff/and volunteers.

I share the beauty and wonder of the animals beneath the oceans surface with my friends and family through underwater photography and video. In my art, I paint wearable pieces such as denim jackets with a bold image of an animal which I hope is conducive to begin conversation i.e. connection.

Through wildlife rehabilitation I was able to give injured and orphaned animals direct aid. Taking note of the reasons animals were brought to the rehabilitation center, I found/discovered that many came into that state as a result of human activity. This was a major marker in the development of my interest in the human-animal interface and in wildlife veterinary medicine. However, my more recent experiences in the small animal clinic repeatedly show me that what I strive for more than anything is to be a conduit for animals to be better understood by humans.

I long for the deepest immersion in the study of animals, to know intimately the physiological cogs and wheels that asldfknk. To know intimately the physiological cogs and wheels that turn inside and animal is the ultimate tool for me to be able to

cherish

I want to o provide connection between zoo

My undergraduate specialization within my major allows me to

My desire to affect the human-animal bond in the most positive way

**What drives my interest in becoming a veterinarian is the human-animal bond and how I can help that bond to flourish in the most positive way.**

How else would I be able to understand an animals pain or problem? the best we can do is estimate based on our knowledge of bodily systems and personal experiences. I want to immerse myself in veterinary medicine, to know intimately the physiological cogs and wheels that , and the behavior that

want to understand intimately the physiological cogs and wheels that imbibe our

My love for wildlife is still strong alongside my newfound exploration. I am confidant that I will be able to accomplish my main drive in any capacity through veterinary medicine.

As a veterinarian I would strive to make this bond flourish having more tools available to me than I could ever achieve in any other field.

My greatest goal is to start a non-profit where families can learn how to and practice taking care of any pet imaginable in order to decide whether. I hope this will imbibe care and understanding, so as to reduce the number of animals that are purchased and lose homes simply because the family wasn’t ready or didn’t realize the responsibility that