ICCI Summer 2020 research assistant posting

Position title:
ICCI summer research assistant: Clinical research studies in companion animal patients with cancer.

Position Description:
Companion animals are susceptible to the development of cancer. While great strides have been made in improving the detection and treatment of cancer in pets, there is still much to learn. Oncology-related clinical research trials at the Ontario Veterinary College Health Sciences Centre (OVC-HSC) are performed with the Institute for Comparative Cancer Investigation (ICCI). Tissue samples are also collected from suitable canine and feline tumours for the Companion Animal Tumour Sample Bank (CATSB). For all clinical research studies, informed client consent is obtained.

The proposed position would assist with the:
• Coordination of patient recruitment and sample collection for oncology clinical trials;
• Documentation and record keeping associated with clinical trials, ICCI website, ICCI Companion Animal Tumour Sample Bank, client consent and other relevant paperwork, including contacting referring veterinary clinics;
• Collection and banking of samples for the CATSB: samples are removed from tumours immediately post-surgical excision at the OVC using established standard operating procedures (SOPs);
• Collection and banking of blood and urine samples from suitable new Oncology patients using established SOPs;
• Dissemination of information at Pet Trust events, conferences, to family veterinarians and within OVC community;
• Extraction of information from medical records for clinical research studies;
• Compilation of a database comprised of surgical oncology patients.

The student would be required to keep a detailed note book of work performed on a daily basis and work both in a team and independently. The ideal candidate will have knowledge of cell and cancer biology, a keen interest in comparative oncology research and possess excellent communication, record keeping and data management skills. Ideally, experience in sterile technique is also required.

Qualifications:
• Applicants must be currently enrolled full time in a science undergraduate or DVM program at the University of Guelph
• Experience with StringSoft is preferred
• Preference will be given to students in the DVM program
• Ideally applicants should be rabies-vaccinated

The student will obtain first-hand experience of the Mona Campbell Centre for Animal Cancer - including being able to attend:
• Daily oncology rounds, learn about treatments, options, tumour types etc;
• Weekly multi-service (oncology, surgery & pathology) meetings in which more complex cases are discussed;
• Annual ICCI Cancer Research Symposium - insight into many translational cancer research studies occurring throughout the University of Guelph.
Overall, this is an excellent learning opportunity to gain a true appreciation of veterinary oncology clinical research studies at the OVC-HSC.

To apply:
Please send covering letter, resumé and copy of unofficial transcript to:
Vicky Sabine (PhD), Clinical Research Coordinator, Dept of Clinical Studies: vsabine@uoguelph.ca
Closing date: Friday 31 January, 2020.

**Position start-date:** 4 May 2020
**Position end-date:** 21 Aug 2020
**Hourly rate:** $14.75/hr
**35hrs/week:** 8.30am-4pm

Only applicants selected for interview will be contacted.