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Robert F. Fairchild, New York, NY, has established the Lois F. Fairchild Scholarship Program in Veterinary Public Service at the School of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania.

The scholarship program, in honor of Mr. Fairchild's mother who cared greatly for animals and their welfare, is the first such program in a veterinary school. It is designed to encourage veterinarians to enter the field of public practice or service as a career goal.

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The endowment which comes from the estate of Mr. Edgar W. B. Fairchild, provides for tuition aid for one junior and one senior student who have a strong commitment to public service. Scholarship recipients are required to practice in the public sector for at least one year following graduation. Areas of employment include such diverse areas as: epidemiology/public health; direct animal care for humane/SPCA organizations; (an internship here is not considered appropriate public practice); Peace Corps; Native American Projects of the AVMA; federal, state, and local government services; aquaria; zoos and wildlife organizations; service to Seeing Eye organizations; and, World Health Organization.

"We are enthusiastic about the Lois F. Fairchild Scholarship Program in Veterinary Public Health," said Dean Edwin J. Andrews. "We are committed to broadening the ways in which veterinary medicine is integrated into a global society and this program challenges us to expand our collective recognition and understanding of public service. Scholarship recipients are required to practice in the public sector for at least one year following graduation. Areas of employment include such diverse areas as: epidemiology/public health; direct animal care for humane/SPCA organizations; (an internship here is not considered appropriate public practice); Peace Corps; Native American Projects of the AVMA; federal, state, and local government services; aquaria; zoos and wildlife organizations; service to Seeing Eye organizations; and, World Health Organization."

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The following is a quotation from a recent report of a working party for the Council for Science and Society in Great Britain. The quotation is found in a 1785 publication "Animals in Society," published by the Oxford University Press (1988).

"It is one of the moral assumptions of our society (and of many others) that a duty exists to protect the interests of animals, thereby setting limits on what may be done to them in order to satisfy human needs and desires. It is not necessary to invest animals with rights in order to assert and enforce that duty. The duty arises from the intellectual and moral perceptions which are a product of human nature."

From the Dean

Each year, individual, as well as societal perceptions of the world around us change; it has been argued that "perception is reality."

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