

Visiting the ophthalmology service at the University of California Davis was one of the best experiences of my life. On my first day at UC Davis, I received a warm reception for entire group. Professor David Maggs who is an excellent person, received me and invited me to participate in the student rounds, weekly journal clubs for Ophthalmology and Avian Ophthalmology, and the 21st Annual Northern California Veterinary Ophthalmology Society Conference. I had the opportunity to meet Professors Kathy Good and Steve Hollingsworth who allowed me to learn in the Ophthalmology Clinical Service. I also met Professor Chris Murphy who invited me to visit his research laboratory so that I could see some research in progress. At the same time, I also met Professors Sara Thomasy, Mary Lassaline, Paul Russell and Roy Bellhorn. I never thought that one day I could be with all of these important professors in the veterinary ophthalmology area.

It was my first time in the United States, and I was so excited to be there, speaking English and learning about something that I love - "Veterinary Ophthalmology". The professors, residents and technicians made it easier to understand about clinic cases, treatments, and surgical procedures.

Each day was fun for me, always something different to learn, different species of animals and different ocular disease. I like how the professors, residents and students discuss every case, and at the end of every day all people would meet to talk about the work day. I also had the opportunity to see different, new, and interesting cases, and different surgical procedures, which permitted me to learn more and grow professionally. I saw for first time atypical pannus as well as inherited corneal endothelial dystrophy and its surgical treatment.

I feel very lucky to have visited this great and prestigious center. I would love to thank the ISVO and Acrivet for offering me this great opportunity; the ACVO for providing a 1-year subscription to the Veterinary Ophthalmology journal; Professor David Maggs for having received me, for being so kind, and for giving me a beautiful book; each and every one of the professors, residents, technicians, and students that I met, to Professor Melissa Bain and her family for treating me as part of their family, Karen and her family, and Professor Joe Laus for allowing me to visit UC Davis.

This year I am the luckiest winner of the ISVO-Acrivet Scholarship that let me visit UC Davis, and I feel very fortunate in addition because I won another scholarship to complete some research at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign under the auspices of CAPES.

I will always be grateful for the opportunities that the ISVO-Acrivet Scholarship offered me because I not only grew professionally, I also came to know another culture and made new friends.

Thank you

Flor Claros