



From India to Maryland

June 2008

Haryana Ag. Grad Student takes trip of a lifetime

Amandeep: I was excited from the day I was selected for this exchange program. From that day I started my preparation for this visit. After my selection I got the chance to have a video conference with Dr. Bettye Walters which gave me a fresh impetus for visiting the University of Maryland. Now the time came when I have

landed in the land of opportunity i.e. United States.

I was very excited to see Dr. Bettye at Dulles airport. On Monday (16th June, 2008) I reached the Virginia Maryland regional College of Veterinary Medicine (Maryland campus). Dr. Bettye introduced me to various lab members and other person-

nel of the department. Today only I got the chance to meet Dr. Siba Samal, I was very glad to meet him. Dr Sachin (graduate student) in Dr. Samal's lab has introduced me to various equipments and lab procedures such as DNA sequencing, PCR running, cell splitting, electron microscopy etc. Dr. Paul told me about various aspects and trends regarding Lyme disease. This information is quite important for me as Lyme disease is not prevalent in India. Dr. Zuus told me about various immunological procedures such as antigen- antibody reactions, serological tests. One day I got the chance to meet Dr. Chintamani, he has shown me various disease diagnostic kits such as Influenza type A. He also told me about principles and procedures involved in development of



Dr. Bettye Walters with Amandeep. Dr. Walters is UM's Director, Center for Public & Corporate Veterinary Medicine (CPCVM)

From Haryana to College Park, continued

“I learned about the treatment of various exotic species of birds which I have never seen in India. “

these kits. I visited the National Agricultural Library (world's largest agricultural library). While there I had a very informative talk regarding animal welfare rules in the United States. Here I also got the chance to attend a presentation on animal welfare and also able to exchange my views with DVM students of United States.

I visited the Equine **Medical Centre** in Leesburg. Dr. Suzanne showed me various diagnostic and therapeutics aspects of equine practice such as Endoscopy, Ultrasonography, treadmill test etc. I was really impressed by facilities present at this centre.

I visited Dr. Larry Giebel's veterinary hospital in Gaithersburg, MD. There I learned about U.S. pet practice and treatment of various exotic species of birds which I have never seen in India. I got the chance to see laser surgery of *Ferret* suffering from Insulinoma. I

have seen laser surgery first time in my life.

I also got to observe client dealing which is an important aspect of veterinary practice. In nutshell this is really a big day for me.

Amandeep visits the veterinary practice of Dr. Larry Giebel.



U.S. Capitol

Washington, D.C. is only a few miles from University of Maryland

On weekends I toured Washington, DC. I visited important places such as Capitol Hill, the Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam memorial, Washington monument.

During these 14 days I have enjoyed different kind of food such as Italian, Mexican, American, Chinese, and Indian

with Dr. Bettye and Dr. Samal. It seems to me that my trip ended after one to two days. This was really a life time experience for me. In the end I would like to extend heartiest thanks to all who have made my visit a memorable event of my life especially to Dr. Bettye k Walters and Dr. Siba Samal.