

CVM is an inclusive leader in the field of Veterinary Medicine. The college is proud to celebrate inclusion and diversity with highlighted monthly programming. This month, TAMU-CVM spotlights:

## Celebrating Diversity



CVM's Executive Associate Dean and Director of Diversity & Inclusion answers your diversity questions

## What is the TVMC Initiative?

Diversity has been listed as one of the reasons behind pursuing the Texas Veterinary Medical Center Statewide (TVMC) Initiative. Please explain.

In 2009 and 2016, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board produced a report on the current needs for veterinary medical education in the state. In both reports, they concluded that while no additional veterinary college was needed, the CVM should focus resources on developing a stronger pathway for individuals that wish to pursue rural or food animal practice, as well as increasing diversity. The college, Texas A&M University, and the TAMU System worked together to design and build a state-ofthe-art teaching and learning complex that could meet those needs for Texas now and well into the future. Since the 2009 report, the CVM has been developing strong partnerships with four universities within the TAMU System that could help address both of these mandates from the THECB. With the opening of the Veterinary and Biomedical Education complex that allows an increased class size and the unique partnerships and student pipelines associated with West Texas A&M University, Prairie View A&M University, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, and Tarleton State University, both increased diversity and the rural needs for veterinary care will be addressed in a positive way by capitalizing on the strengths of these excellent regional universities, each of which has a different emphasis and tie to

state.

livestock industries and serves a broad region of the Have a question for the Diversity Dean? Send your questions to Diversity@cvm.tamu.edu.