(April 6, 2011 Stillwater, OK) – Nine Oklahoma State University Center for Veterinary Health Sciences students are among the 300 recipients of the 2nd Annual Student Scholarship Program sponsored by Pfizer Animal Health and the American Veterinary Medical Foundation.

OSU veterinary students receiving a scholarship are: Melissa Cleavinger ('13) of Garland, Texas; Dustin Leck ('12) of Calumet, Okla.; Jennifer Murphy ('12) of Tulsa, Okla.; Melanie Novak ('12) of Enid, Okla.; Candice Ottone ('12) of Chico, Calif.; Monika Payne ('13) of Ada, Okla.; Adriana Robbins ('12) of Port Arthur, Texas; Elizabeth Rosainz ('12) of Davie, Fla.; and Kristy Rutz ('12) of Seiling, Okla.

The awards are given to second- and third-year veterinary students at accredited universities throughout the United State and the Caribbean. Selection was based on several criteria including academic excellence, professional interests (small animal, large animal, research, academia, etc.), diversity, leadership and potential for contribution to the veterinary profession.

In response to the rising debt load and to help ensure there are enough qualified veterinarians in the coming years, Pfizer Animal Health and the AVMF have grown the scholarship program by 26 percent in terms of funding since its inaugural year in 2010.

The Oklahoma State University Center for Veterinary Health Sciences is one of 28 veterinary

colleges in the United States and is fully accredited by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association. The center's
Boren Veterinary Medial Teaching Hospital
is open to the public and provides routine and specialized care for small and large animals. It also offers 24 hour emergency care and is certified by the American Animal Hospital Association. For more information, visit
www.cvhs.okstate.edu
or call (405) 744-7000.

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