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END OF TOUR REPORT

Name: Jay M. Humburg

Job Title: Professor and Head of
Department of Veterinary
Surgery and Medicine,
Ahmadu Bello University

Country of Assignment: Nigeria

Contract Employer: Kansas State University

Project Activity: Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (ABU Project
No.625-11-660-514)

Tour of Duty Began: 31 December 1966

Tour of Duty Ended: 16 July 1971

✓ A.I.D.
Reference Center
Room 1658 NS

I arrived in Samaru on 31st December 1966, to take up a position in the Department of Veterinary Physiology. During the first six months of my assignment I worked in this department with Professor Underjberg and Dr. Sullivan, became familiar with the local university situation, assisted in planning and ordering supplies for the department, taught a course in metabolic diseases to the DVM IV students and co-operated with Dr. Sullivan in teaching a course in applied physiology to the DVM.III students.

Because of the political situation which existed from June through November of 1967 technicians to replace members of the contract whose tours of duty ended during this period were hesitant to come to Nigeria. This was primarily due to the USAID ruling which prohibited dependents of technicians from entering Nigeria. As a result of this the project was extremely short-handed. At the start of the 1967-68 academic year four KSU/AID personnel assigned to the veterinary medicine section of this project were in the U.S. waiting for the political situation to stabilize.

So that students could be taught it was necessary to improvise the curriculum and reassign available staff. As a result of this Dr. G.T. Hartke, who was the Head of the Department of Surgery and Medicine, and I taught all of the courses in Surgery and Medicine. I taught the DVM.IV students their courses in large animal surgery and in large animal medicine and was responsible for their instruction in large animal clinics during the first term. Dr. Hartke assumed responsibility for their instruction in small animal courses and also taught the DVM.III students courses in surgery and medicine. Dr. Wayne Rogers joined the department in November and Dr. L.I. Railsback came in as a short term consultant to teach courses in Medicine during the 2nd term so that the teaching load was lighter during the 2nd and 3rd terms.

In July 1968 Dr. Railsback became chief of party and Dean of the Veterinary Faculty. At this time all staff positions were filled and it was possible to readjust and bring the teaching back to normal after the year of improvising. As a result of this adjustment, I was shifted from my assignment in Physiology to Head of the Department of Surgery & Medicine. During the 1968-69 academic year Dr. Wayne Rogers and I had the responsibility of teaching all of the courses in Surgery and Medicine as well as all of the clinical instruction. Both of our schedules were extremely demanding during this year and special tribute should be paid to Dr. Rogers for his efforts during this time.

The 1969-70 academic year brought the first Nigerian staff to the Department of Surgery and Medicine. Dr. Idriesu Alhaji and Ibrahim Lemu, who were both returning A.I.D. participants, joined the staff. Dr. Alhaji had obtained a DVM from Michigan State University and Dr. Lemu had obtained his degree from Tuskegee Institute. Both of these men taught a course each term and had a group of final year students assigned to

them during the clinic periods. Because of the heavy teaching load it was extremely difficult to give much direction or guidance to these men. They assumed full teaching loads and did not serve in the capacity of counterparts. This was far from an ideal situation but both men accepted the challenge and their presence greatly eased the burden of teaching a markedly increased number of students. In addition to lightening the teaching load the presence of these men was invaluable in dealing with local stockmen, acquiring supplies and foodstuffs locally and in handling Jr. staff matters.

In November of 1969 Dr. Wayne Rogers' contract terminated and Dr. Wilfred Pimentel was sent to replace him. Dr. Pimentel was assigned the administration of the small animal section of the department and the teaching of all the courses in small animal medicine and surgery as well as teaching a course in principles of surgery.

In the 1970-71 academic year all of the professionally qualified staff were responsible for an average of 15 hours of clinical instruction per week plus one lecture course during each of the three terms. In addition to this Dr. Pimentel had six hours of surgery laboratory during the 2nd term. Each qualified professional staff member was in contact with the students for an average of 20 hours per week which is considerably more than the 12 contact hours per week which is considered a full teaching load by A.B.U. In addition to this both Dr. Pimentel and I had administrative responsibilities which required considerable time and all members of staff spent at least some time in other than routine clinic hours treating clinical cases.

With this teaching load it was still not possible to assign teaching so that the recent Nigerian graduates could understudy experienced instructors, but it was possible to arrange teaching so that no staff member was responsible for more than one lecture course per term. This was a great improvement over previous years when each of us had been responsible for two lecture courses per term in addition to the clinical laboratories and the average amount of time spent with the students was 26 hours per week. An additional improvement was the addition of a senior technician to the staff during the third term of the 1970 - 71 academic year. This markedly reduced the amount of time which I had previously been required to spend with the routine chores of operating the department.

During the 1970-71 academic year the following courses were taught:

	<u>Term</u>	<u>Hrs/wk</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Students</u>
Diagnosis	1	4	Lemu	25
General Medicine	2	4	Lemu	25
Bacterial Diseases	1	5	Alhaji	19
Viral Diseases	1	5	Alhaji	19
Dis. of Unknown Etiology	1	5	Alhaji	19
Clinical Techniques	1	4	Humburg	19
Large Animal Surgery	1	4	Humburg	19
Obstetrics & Breeding Diseases	1	5	Humburg	19
Principles of Surgery	1	5	Pimentel	25
Small Animal Surgery	1	7	Pimentel	25
Small Animal Medicine	1	5	Pimentel	25
Radiology	1	4	Ema*	25
Clinics	3	15**	All members of staff	19

* Dr. Ema was on the staff of the Dept. of Veterinary Anatomy but taught this course for the Dept. of Surgery & Medicine

** The hours assigned to clinical instruction varied from term to term but averaged 15.

Students

The five classes of students which I taught while at Ahmadu Bello University, which includes all of the graduates up to the present time, were with few exceptions extremely respectful, receptive and eager to learn. In some cases their education prior to entering the university was concerned primarily with the memorising of facts without much attention to the application of this knowledge. This background was a problem to those teaching courses in the pre-clinical years but I found that by the time the students reached me my colleagues teaching the basic courses had reshaped their thinking and study habits and in general they were ready to apply their knowledge and learn with understanding.

One problem which concerned many of us on the faculty was the reluctance of students to buy text and reference books. This was in some, but not all, cases due to lack of funds. Since most of these men will be stationed in areas where they will not have access to veterinary reference texts, unless they spend money to acquire a personal library after they graduate this reluctance to buy books will reduce their effectiveness.

Teaching

One of the problems in developing a curriculum and in setting up the courses in a new school in a country with different veterinary requirements than those with which one is familiar is determining what is to be covered in the allotted time. This was a problem which caused concern to all members of my staff. In general, in the courses which I taught as well as the courses taught in the department I tried to teach and urge others to teach, not as I had been taught but to groom the student so that he could satisfy the requirements of Nigeria. This meant putting a much greater stress on the endemic diseases of the country and a much lighter coverage of the diseases and conditions which are seldom seen in livestock in developing areas. An attempt was made to cover adequately all diseases, conditions and procedures which are covered in veterinary schools in developed countries in addition to in-depth studies of endemic diseases and conditions which exist in Nigeria.

When teaching surgery it was necessary always to keep in mind that limited drugs, material and equipment would be available to the student following his graduation. As a result, I spent a considerable amount of time discussing variations in techniques, mentioning simpler methods of handling conditions, encouraging students to improvise and trying to make sure that no A.B.U. graduate would refuse to tackle a procedure because he didn't have just the right instrument, anesthetic agent, or restraint equipment at his disposal.

Examinations were handled as they are in most U.S. university systems. Every instructor was required to turn in a mid-term and a final grade for each course. Most of us gave several announced examinations and a few unannounced quizzes during each term. In addition a sessional examination which was marked by an external examiner was given for each course.

Development of Clinical Case Load

In July of 1967 when I first became involved in clinical instruction at A.B.U. the large animal clinical cases consisted of those animals examined and treated at the Shika Research Station and N.T.C. farm, a few animals which were walked to the faculty buildings in Samaru and horses in routinely visited stables in Jabon Gari and Tudun Wada. Small animal cases were all brought to the Faculty.

Because of the marked shortage of staff it was not possible to extend this clinical service until the fall of 1969. At this time Drs. Wayne Rogers and Ibrahim Lemu organized routine visits to several villages in the surrounding area. In the fall of 1970 Dr. Lemu was assigned to the development of these village clinics. He spent a considerable amount of time visiting leaders in the villages to schedule these visits and took students to the villages five days a week. The village clinics were especially valuable in giving the students much needed experience in the type of medicine and surgery that they will be called on to practice after they graduate. In addition to providing this experience a number of interesting cases were unearthed and some of the most interesting were brought to the faculty so that all of the students could observe them.

The additional manpower available in the 70-71 academic year made it possible to give better clinical service and to better utilize for teaching the cases which were presented.

The Provincial Veterinary Officer for Zaria Province, Dr. H.J. Kalliesco, was most helpful in notifying us of endemic disease outbreaks and allowing us access to his veterinary clinics in the Zaria area. In addition to this Dr. Kalliesco also gave a number of lectures to our final year students on veterinary law in Nigeria and the duties of a veterinary officer in Nigeria. His help in the education of the students was much appreciated by both the staff and the students.

Comments

1. The entire staff of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at A.B.U. has always maintained an extremely helpful attitude. At times during my four and a half years with the faculty conditions were very trying. This was especially true during the 1967-68 academic year when staff numbers were markedly reduced. Due to the co-operative effort of all concerned, we were able to continue as an effective teaching unit.
2. I am quite proud to have been associated with the Kansas State University AID program and with the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at Ahmadu Bello University. The success of the project has been due to the willingness of all members of the faculty to put in many hours of hard work. Equally as important was the initial planning and continued direction by Drs. Loasure and Beck and the capable on the scene leadership of Deans Unlerjberg, Sullivan, Railsbeck and Coles. The fact that the University Administration has recognized the need for the development of the faculty and has given adequate local support and encouragement has also been extremely important in making the development of this faculty an outstanding example of the effective use of foreign aid funds.

In my opinion the development of this veterinary faculty will stand for years as a tribute to the effective use of funds and personnel and the proper channelling of the co-operative efforts of the governments of Nigeria, The Netherlands and the U.S.A.

3. Our tour of duty at A.B.U. has been a very rewarding experience for both my wife and myself. We feel very fortunate to have had the chance to live and work in Nigeria. The opportunity to see the faculty develop during the time we have been with the project was quite rewarding. The opportunity to learn to know something of other cultures and to have made many new, interesting and hopefully long-lasting friends has been an extra compensation. Because of the good friends we made while in Nigeria and the feeling of belonging to a worthwhile and effective project it is with mixed emotions that we leave Nigeria to return to the United States.