Murdoch UNIVERSITY

School of Veterinary and Life Sciences
College of Veterinary Medicine

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[redacted]
Hill's Pet Nutrition Asia-Pacific Pte Ltd

Dear [redacted]

Further to your meeting with Professor Read and our subsequent email correspondence, I am writing to keep you informed about the progress of the curriculum changes to the coursework programs. We have proposed new structures for the Murdoch University Graduate (Postgraduate) Certificate and Masters Degree in Small Animal Practice that fit into the latest academic framework required by the Australian Government. I will let you know the outcome as soon as it has passed due process within the university here.
We share some of your concerns about the relevancy of the Masters program for veterinarians practicing in SE Asia and will no longer emphasise this as the ultimate goal to that particular audience, although we would always encourage excellent students to pursue this if they wish to. Instead, we propose a really practical and relevant learning experience (Graduate Certificate) for these veterinarians, preceded by a hands-on workshop.

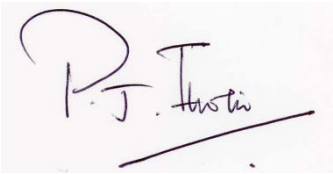
While we await the University's consideration of our proposal, I propose we explore ways to move forward together in 2014. We have identified the following areas for your consideration:

- Hill's to sponsor targeted individual veterinarians (or groups of veterinarians from a specific practice) to attend our offshore workshops (*Advanced Veterinary Clinical Skills*). These workshops remain a pre-requisite for enrolment into the Graduate Certificate course but vets may attend without any obligation to continue into academic studies.
- Hill's to establish scholarships for selected veterinarians to enrol in and complete the Graduate Certificate training.
- Hill's to provide financial support for selected veterinarians to complete single units from the Certificate program (this option will be offered through our CVE office and will not require the veterinarian to enrol into a course).
- Finally, Murdoch University offers a Webinar series in a variety of clinical disciplines suitable for veterinarians in Small Animal Practice. These have been very successful within

Australia and have recently been offered in Singapore and Hong Kong. We currently receive support for these from Hill's Australia, but they would be suitable for a wider Asian audience and we could consider developing Webinar Topics by request. Providing financial assistance for selected veterinarians to gain access to these webinars is another avenue for SE Asian veterinarians to broaden their clinical expertise as well as their English language proficiency.

You can see that these proposals focus more on the practitioner than on Murdoch per se, yet would strengthen the collaboration between our two organisations. Clearly, we require to work through the details, but I believe these suggestions are of real value to veterinarians in SE Asia and are in alignment with your interests.

Yours sincerely,



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