



News Release

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Athens, GA—A 2004 graduate of the college's Veterinary Technology program is one of only eight technicians nationally to earn recognition as a veterinary technician specialist in small animal internal medicine by the Academy of Internal Medicine for Veterinary Technicians (AIMVT).

Joanna Young earned this recognition in 2008 after successfully completing two separate examinations. The first exam focused on general internal medicine, while the second test covered her specialization. Ms. Young's interest is in the long-term management of endocrine disorders.

To qualify for the examinations, Ms. Young had to submit proof of three years and at least 6,000 hours of work experience in internal medicine, 40 hours of continuing education in internal medicine, a case log showing that she had provided care to at least 50 internal medicine patients, and documentation that she has mastered numerous advanced patient care skills.

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Athens Technical College

News Release – Vet Tech graduate earns national recognition

Page 2

Ms. Young has been employed at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital at the University of Georgia since she graduated from Athens Technical College. In her position in the Internal Medicine Unit, she cares for small animal patients that need advanced nursing care. She also assists with the clinical instruction of veterinary and veterinary technology students from several institutions, including Athens Technical College.

AIMVT offered the specialty examination in small animal internal medicine for the first time in the United States in 2008. Only 23 candidates nationally gained approval to sit for the examination.

The National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America recognizes five academies that offer specialty certification in advanced areas of veterinary patient care, including anesthesia, behavior, dentistry, emergency and critical care, and internal medicine. The Academy of Internal Medicine for Veterinary Technicians recognizes four sub-specialties: small animal internal medicine, large animal internal medicine, cardiology, and oncology.

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