

FROM PIGLETS TO THE PALIO: summer experience for second year veterinary students

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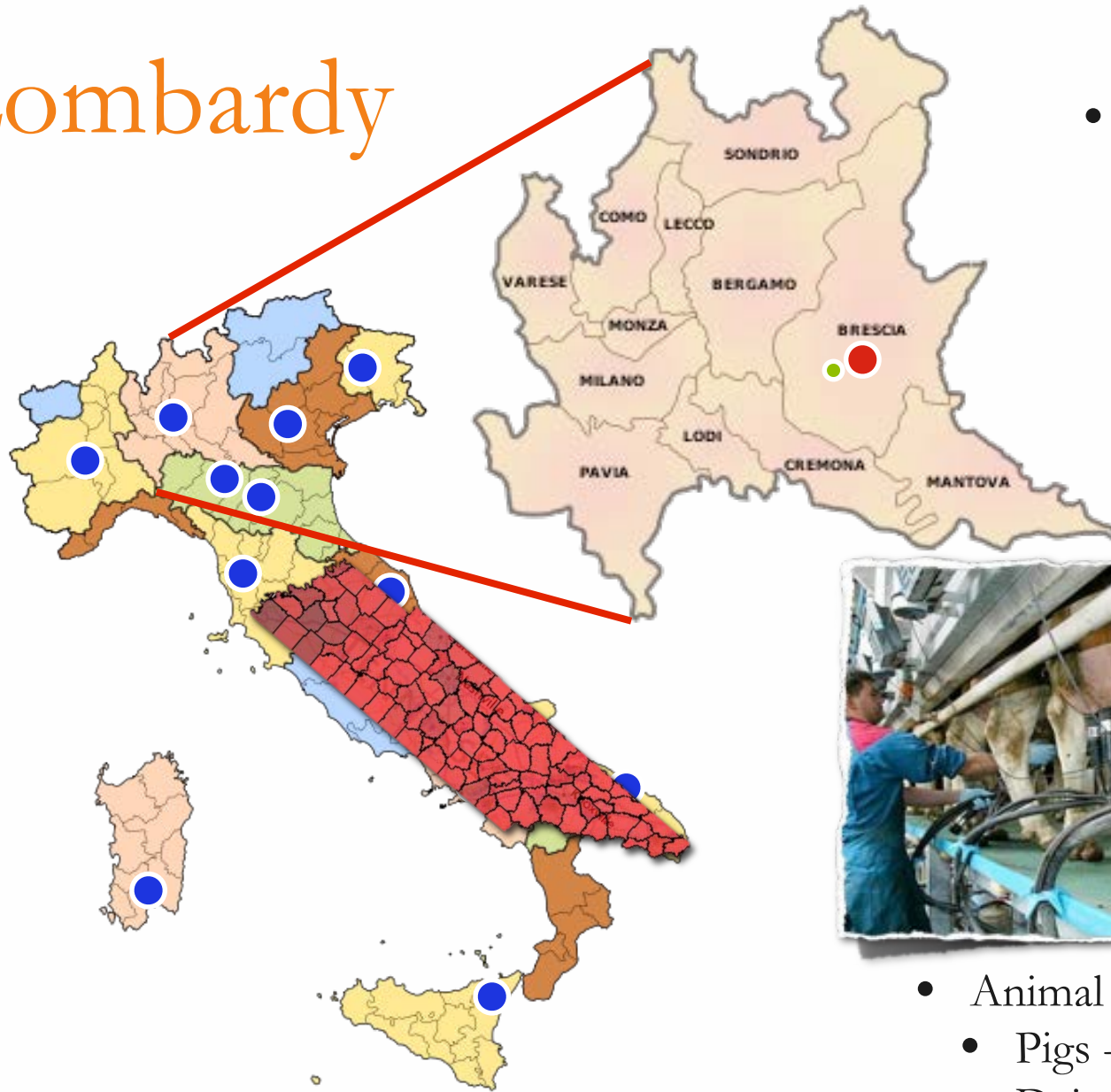


Brescia



Travagliato

Lombardy



Italy (60,500,000 pop)

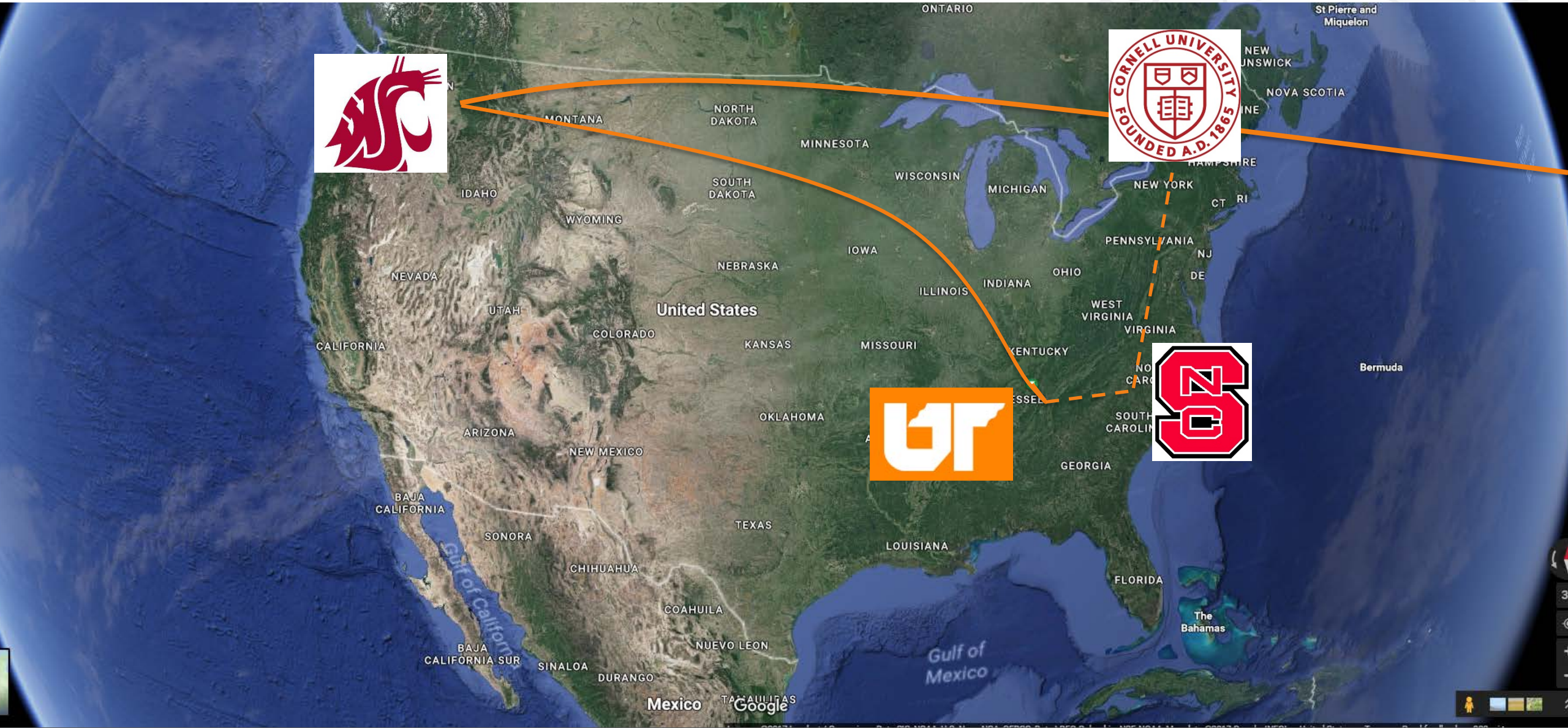
- 20 regions
- Lombardy
 - 12 provinces
 - 9,794,525 inh.
 - 1,300,000 inh. Milano
 - high productive --> 20% Italian GDP (Gross Domestic Product)



14 Vet Schools

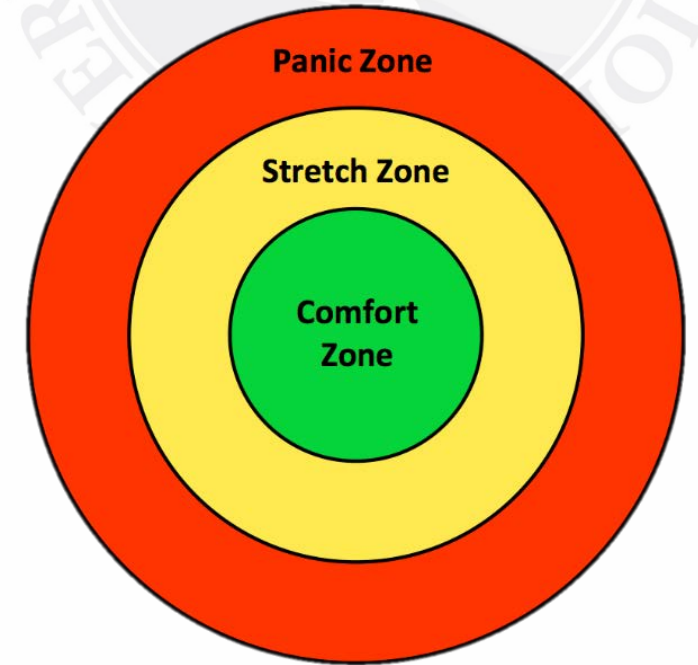
- Animal husbandry in Lombardy
 - Pigs --> 5,000,000 (52% IT production)
 - Dairy Cows --> 550,000 (31% IT milk production)
 - Pets in Lombardy --> 3,000,000 (18% IT)

My first international experience



Why I wanted the international experience

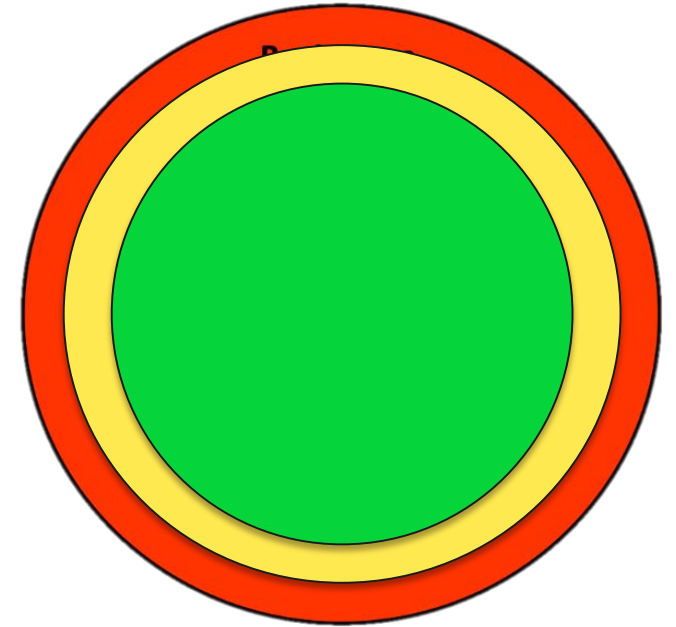
- ✓ Improve my English (PhD dissertation)
- ✓ Learn about veterinary educational in US
 - Professional programs
 - Internship/residency
- ✓ Create research connection for my Italian group
- ✓ Challenge myself





Most of all, an abroad experience ...

- changes the person you are
- matures you and broadens your horizon
- strengthens your spirit of adaptation
- gaining self-confidence and kindness
- makes you understand what is really important
 - you learn from mistakes
- appreciate another way of life
- an insight into other countries with unfamiliar customs, unexplored perks and new beliefs
 - broadens mind, positively changed attitude towards foreign countries

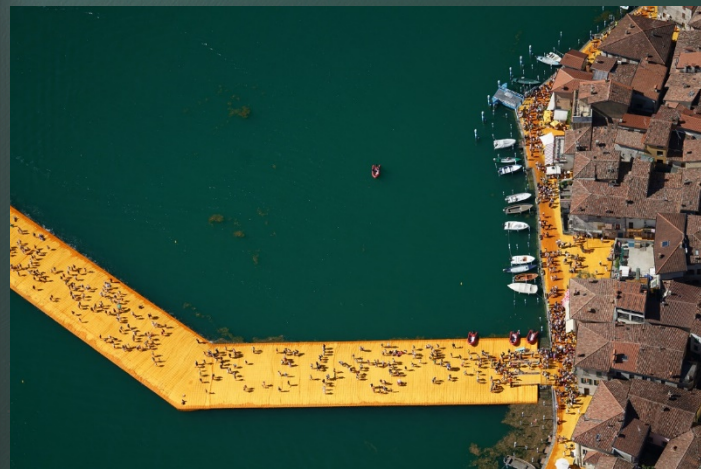
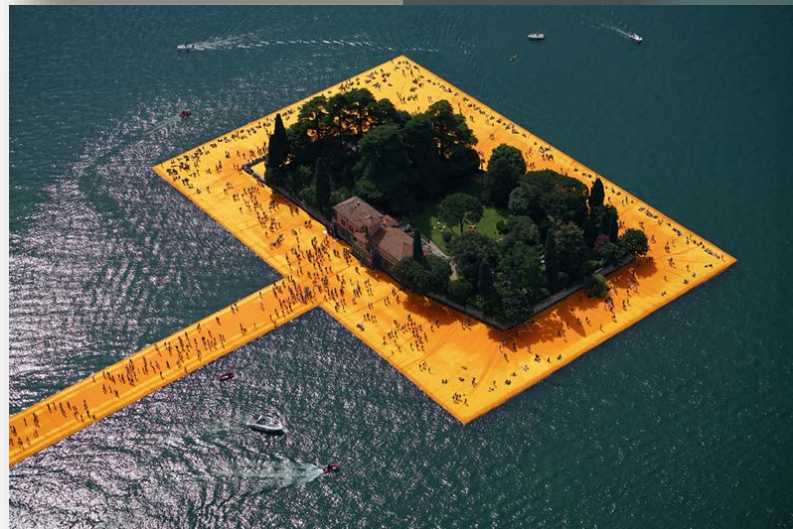


THE PROGRAM

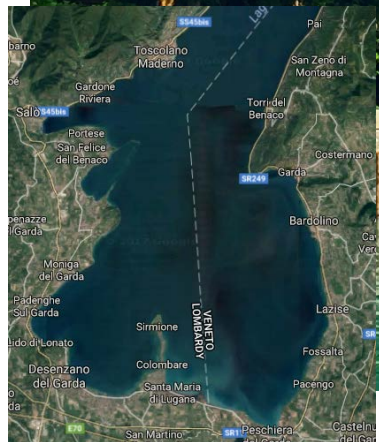
Goals

- acquaint students to the unique aspects of swine production or equine specialties with some hands-on experience
- experience the cultural/professional differences that influence the veterinary industry
- experience Italian culture, customs and traditions: from architecture to cuisine; from social habits to holidays; from the mountains to the beaches



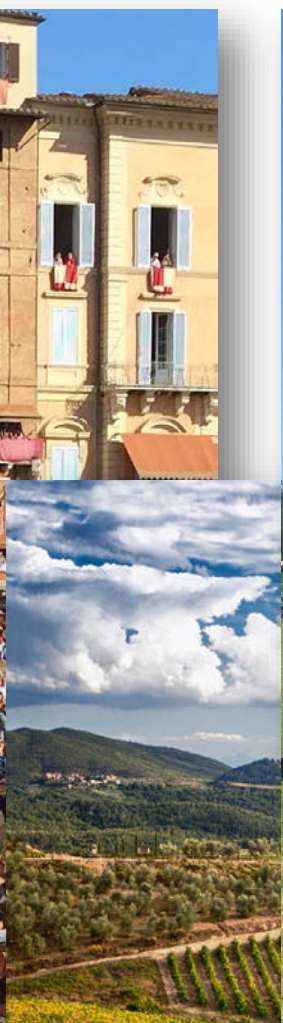


Sirmione, Lago di Garda



Santa Maria del Fiore, Florence

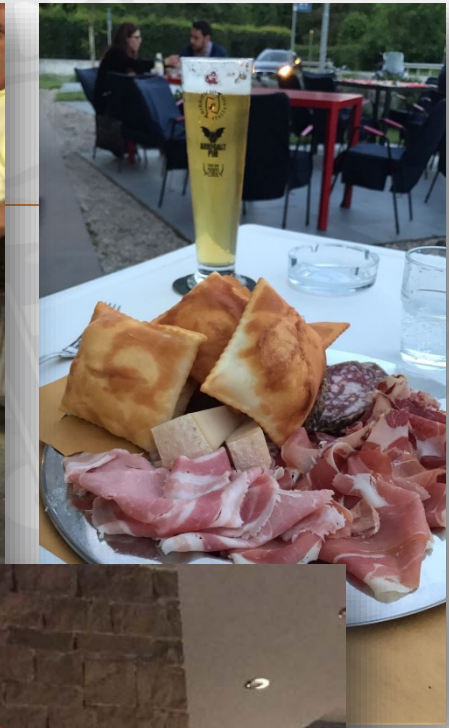




ARENA di Verona

AIDA 2017





For who?

- Second year veterinary students:
 - Last “available free time” before they are stuck forever into clinics
 - Already have some hands-on experiences and took some classes such as surgery and ophthalmology



For how long?

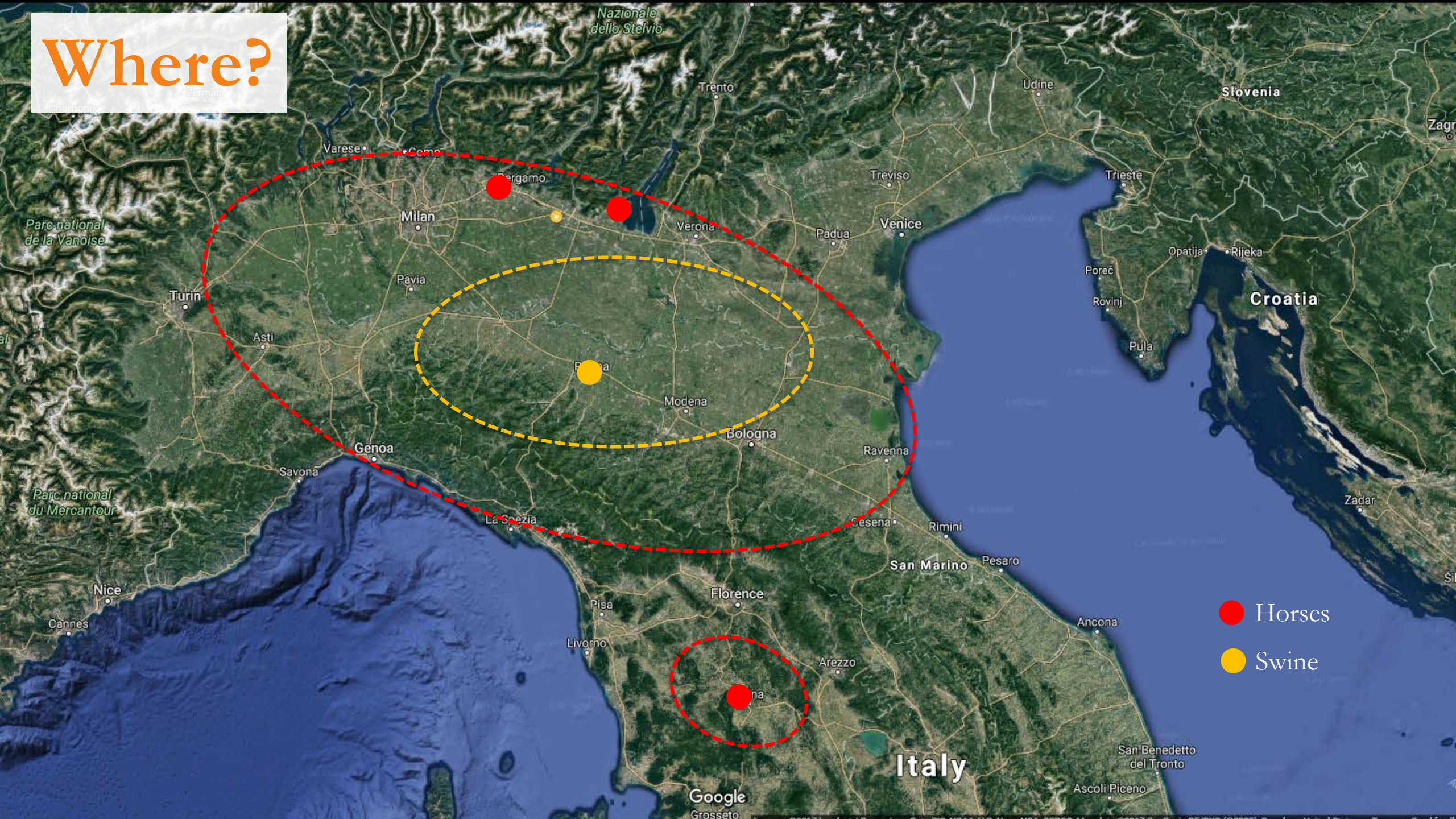
- 4-7 week long externships in which the students will work directly with veterinary practitioners (most practitioners are board-certified or PhD) in North (Lombardy) and Central (Emilia-Romagna and Tuscany) Italy.



When?

- flexible weeks over the summer (from June to August)
 - dates for 2017: from middle May to the beginning of August, and will depend on student's needs
 - Palio di Siena: two races per year **always** the 2nd of July and the 16th of August
- Suggested at least 4 weeks long
- Arrival/departure: flights to and from Italy will be scheduled by the student on a case-per-case basis (depending on externship dates and location)

Where?



Swine Externships in Italy



Swine Externship

- full immersion exposure to all aspects of commercial swine production (Prosciutto Crudo di Parma DOPG) in several farrow-to-finish facilities

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Claudio Mazzoni, DVM, PhD,

Adjunct professor at University of Parma and Turin,
founder **SUIVET**

- 5 DVMs business partners and several specialist consultants
- Service company since 2009
 - provide an integrated set of support services to swine operators and farmers in Italy
 - technical training of staff and management of property
 - spread the latest scientific acquisitions related to the sector.
 - active research and clinical trials (Merial; Elanco)

SUIVET

- Students housed in a agriturismo or in the house of one of the doctor
- SUIVET:
 - teaching facility (for conferences and wet labs)
 - recently add a housing facility for extern!



During this experience

From Monday to Friday there is the possibility to follow different DVMs in specific areas:

- Farm consults and emergencies
- Pig flow management and swine nutrition
- Breeding and parturition (C-sections;)
- Vaccinations
- Surgery (inguinal herniation, cryptorchidism)
- Measurement of BCS and subcutaneous pork fat
- Monitoring and analysis of animals in the slaughtering process
- Clinical trials for pharmaceutical industries



Equine Externships in Italy





EQUINE ORTHOPEDIC TRAUMATOLOGY AND DERMATOLOGY

Massimiliano Scandella

DVM, PhD, MRCVS



- Graduated from the University of Milan in 2001
- PhD in **Orthopedics and Traumatology** (equine, canine, feline focus)
- Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons since 2012
- Research Certification by the Hospital Of the Large animals Lodi for traumatic orthopedics and pediatric pathologies in equines
- Certified by the Animal Health Foundation for the Official Evaluation of Ankle and Elbow Dysplasia
- Certified PennHip Veterinarian

Practice owner and practitioner specializing in orthopedic and trauma surgery (canine, feline, and equine)

- Graduated from the University of Milan in 2011
- Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons since 2012
- Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice in **Veterinary Dermatology** from University of Liverpool
- Member of the Italian Society of Veterinary Dermatology and the European Society of Veterinary Dermatology

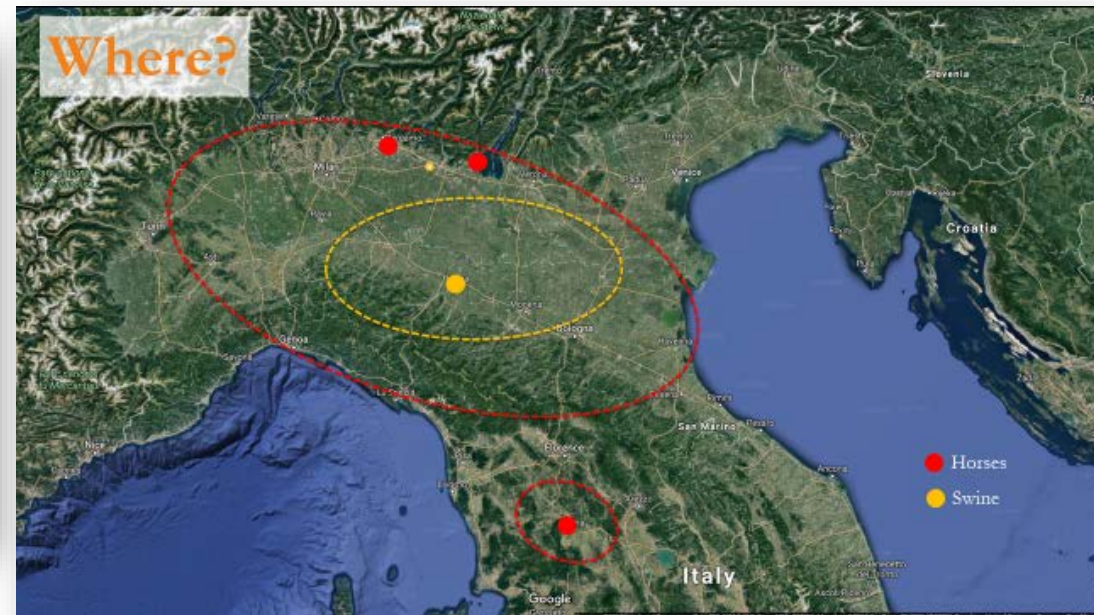
Practice owner and practitioner specializing in dermatology and wound management

Beatrice Funiciello

DVM, CertAVP (VD) MRCVS



CLINICA VETERINARIA **Bemavet**



- ...*animali per passione!*
- Founded in 2014 by Dr. Scandella, Dr. Funiciello, and Dr. Livio Perniceni
- Mixed animal practice with particular specialty in orthopedics and dermatology
- Accredited as a Cat Friendly Clinic by the International Society of Feline Medicine



During this experience

From Monday to Friday:

- Orthopedic surgeries in small animal
- PennHip evaluations
- Equine ambulatory practice
 - specialty in lameness evaluation
- Equine Radiology and ultrasonography
- Equine Dermatology
- Neurologic evaluation



EQUINE OPHTHALMOLOGY

Riccardo Stoppini, DVM



- Graduated in 1995 from the Veterinary School at the University of Parma
- 6 month externship in **Australia** - equine reproduction and anesthesia.
- Beginning in '98, interest in **equine ophthalmology**:
 - “Equine Ophthalmology” at **Liverpool University** (UK)
 - “Basic Science Course in Veterinary Ophthalmology” at **North Carolina State University**.
 - “Intraocular Surgery for Advanced Surgeons – small animals” (**Berlin**, 2007)
 - “Intraocular Surgery for Advanced Surgeons – Horses” (**Berlin**, 2009)
 - Externships at **NCSU** in 2000, 2002, 2005, 2009, 2011, 2015
- Vice-President (2017-2018) of the **IEOC (International Equine Ophthalmology Consortium)**
- Author on national and international ophthalmology journals;
- co-author in the first, second and third textbook edited by BC Gilger “Equine Ophthalmology” (2005, 2011, 2017) and in the second edition of “Oftalmologia Veterinaria” ed. Poletto (2016)

Since 2002 as an Equine Ophthalmology Consultant in northern Italy.

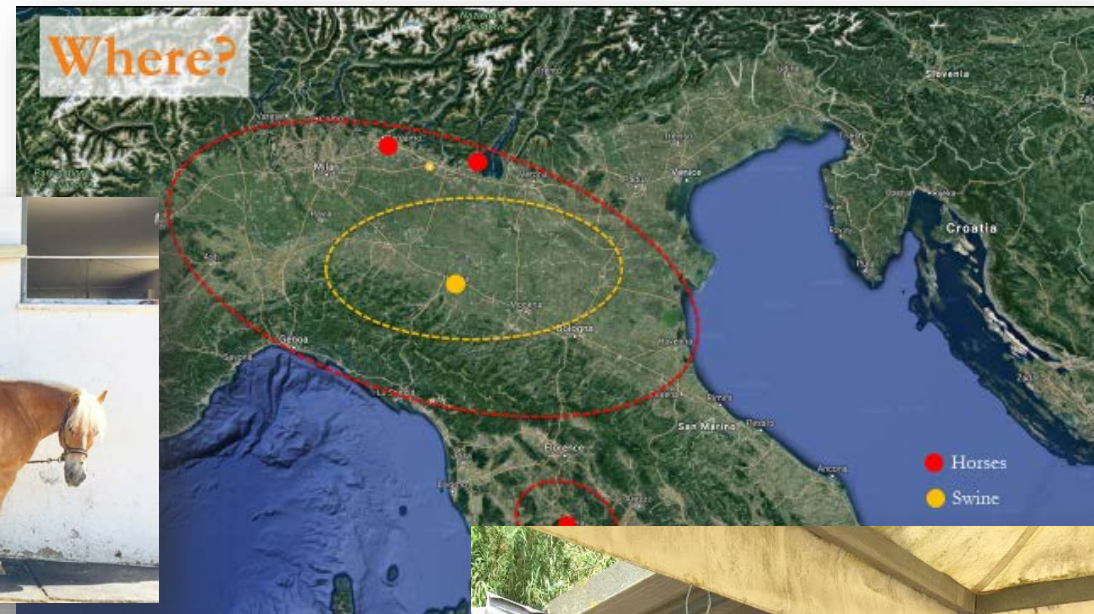
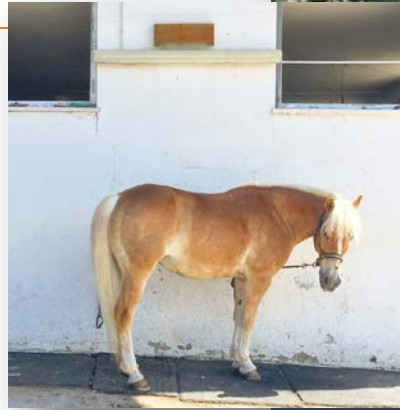
During this experience

Ambulatory practice

- broad area throughout Northern Italy

Ophthalmology only

- Ocular surgeries in small animals
- Equine:
 - Corneal ulceration and abscessation
 - Uveitis
 - Cyclosporine implants
 - Mass removals

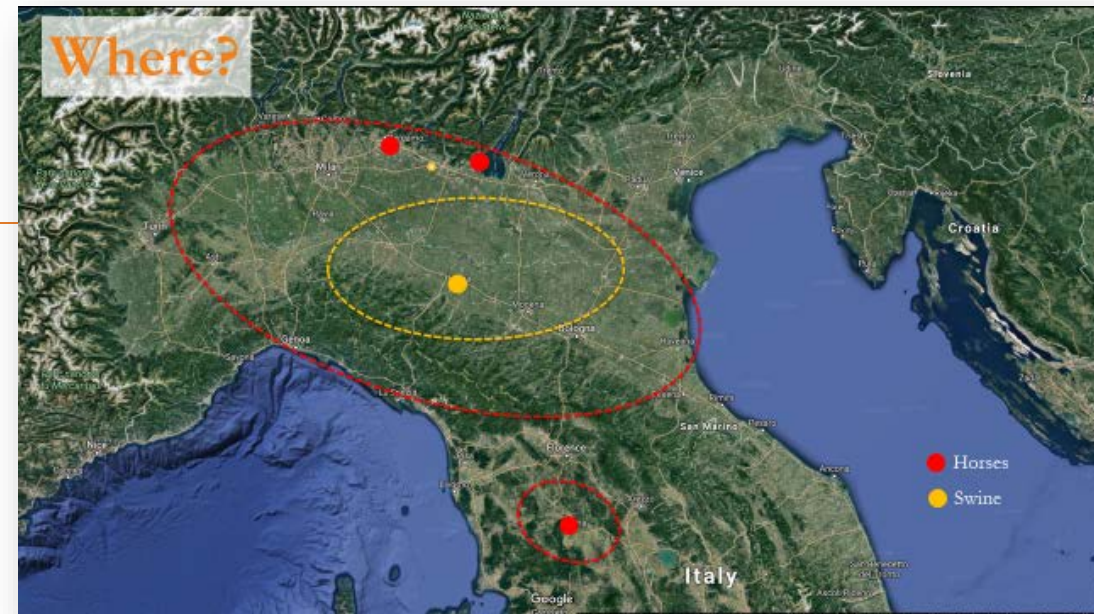


EQUINE SURGERY

Raffaello Ciampoli, DVM



- Graduated from the University of Parma in 1985
- DVM, Equine Medicine and Surgery
- Practice owner, surgeon, and practitioner of Il Ceppo Veterinary Hospital – Siena
- Co-Founded **PlasmaLife** in 1996
- **Attending veterinarian of the Palio**
- Consultant in Dubai on Arabians and camelids





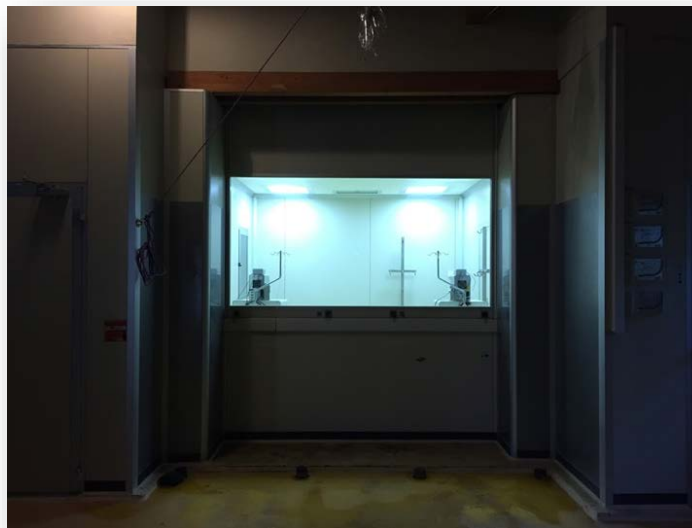
Il Ceppo



PlasmaLife



- Hyperimmune plasma manufacturer
- Herd of healthy, universal, hyperimmune donor horses
 - Tested for 16 infectious diseases
- Each bag has a minimum of 24 g/L of IgG and 50 g/L of total proteins
- The only entirely Italian produced plasma product approved by the Italian Health Ministry

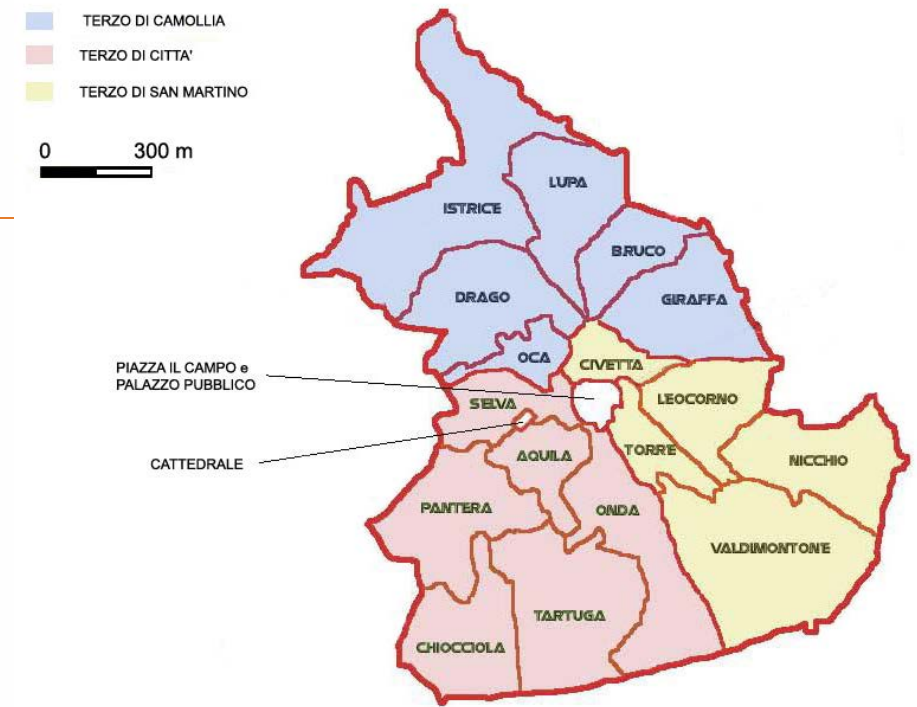


The Palio



The Heart of Siena

- Siena is divided into 17 districts (*contrade*)
 - Loyalty to their *contrada* above church and state
- The contrade fiercely compete year-round, culminating in two annual events: *Il Palio di Siena*
 - July 2nd and August 16th
- NOT just a horse race
 - Pride of the city
 - Glory or despair of a contrada
 - The Palio is the heart and life of Siena
 - *They belong to their contrada first, Siena second, Italy third*



The Race

- 10 of the 17 contrade compete
- Hired jockeys race bareback on a dirt track around the *Piazza del Campo*
- Three circles, 90 seconds
- Horse can win without a jockey!
 - The horse is more important to success than the jockey
- Horses are mixed breed, mares or geldings
- High speeds, sharp turns, hard ground all predispose a horse to injury



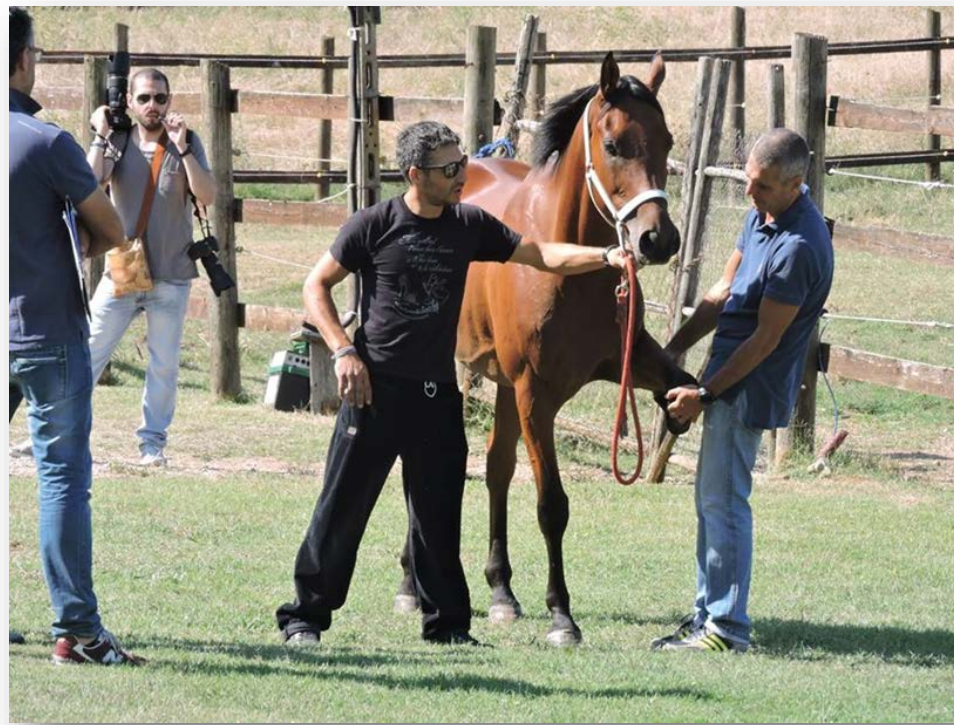
Pre-Race Exam

- Before the race, students participate in the examination of approximately **100 horses** over two days (at Il Ceppo)
- Examination divided into three stations:

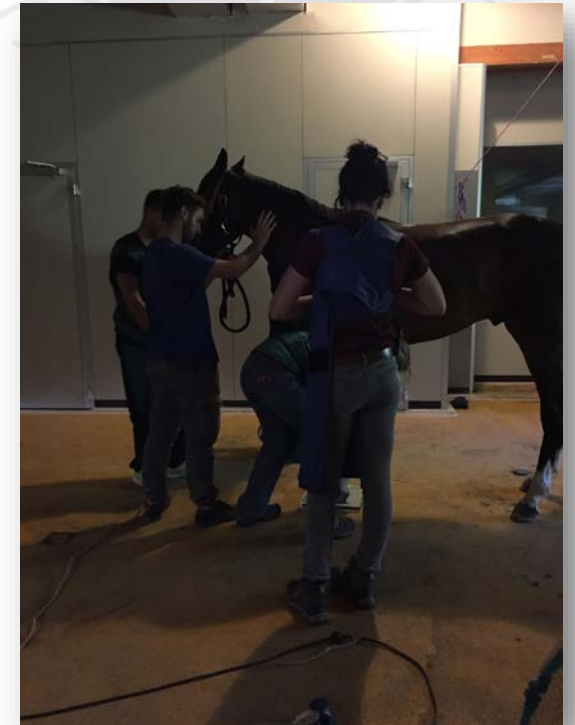
1. Blood Draw and Records



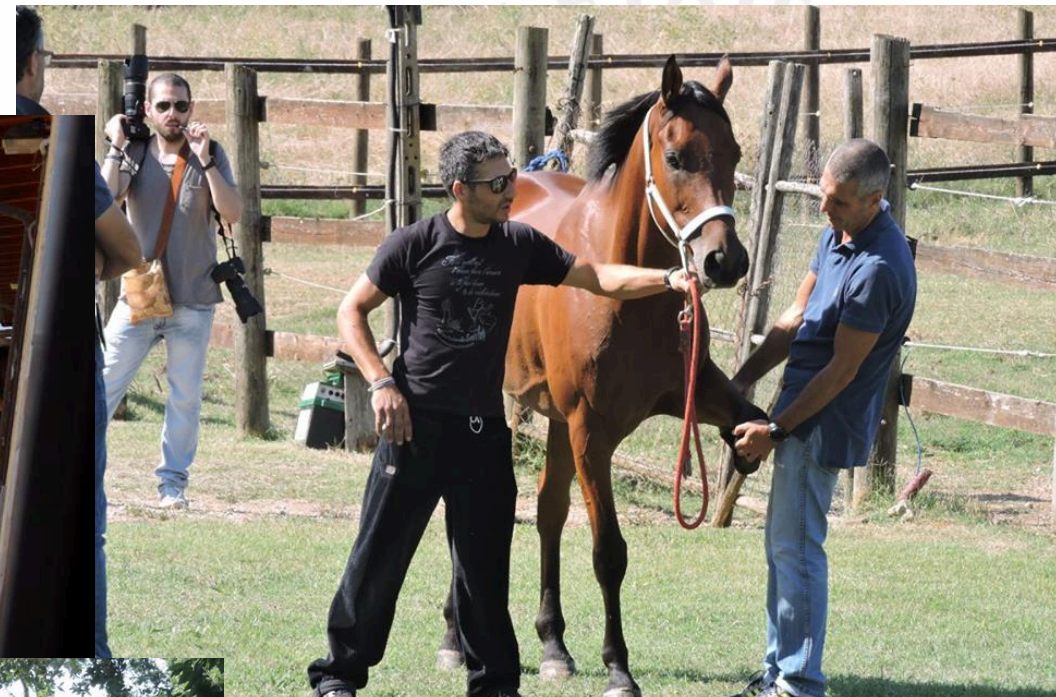
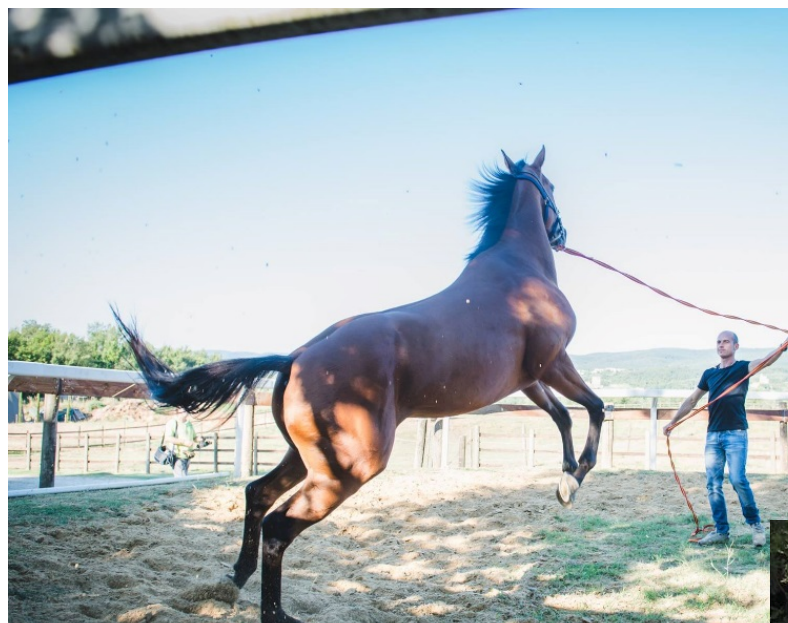
2. Lameness Exam



3. Radiographs



Pre-Race Exam



Pre-Race Exam

- From the 100 examined, **32** horses are approved, and **10** are chosen to run in the Palio
- Contrade choose their horse via a lottery system
- The week before the big race, students attend two *prova*, or trial-runs, per day in the Piazza del Campo



Palio Experience

“...in the conflict of your districts lies your union. All the world is flaking away, but there you are with the aliveness of these rites and with your loyalty to the centuries...”

Federico Fellini, Director c.1970

- This is a truly unique, indescribable experience
- Appreciation for the culture unique to Siena, Italy
- Students have direct, hands-on experience with horses that are not only top equine athletes, but the representation of an entire district's pride and glory
- Enhancement of veterinary skills by participating in radiographic imaging, lameness evaluation, and competition monitoring

But that's not all!

- During their stay at Il Ceppo, students also work with the hospital's day-to-day appointments and emergencies
- Experiences include:
 - Monitoring of Polo matches
 - Monitoring of races in adjacent towns (“*mini-Palios*”)
 - Lameness exams
 - Radiology and ultrasonography
 - Donor plasmapheresis
 - Joint injections
 - Dystocia's
 - Orthopedic surgeries
 - And many other ambulatory and emergency medical procedures!





What do you feel you gain from this externship?

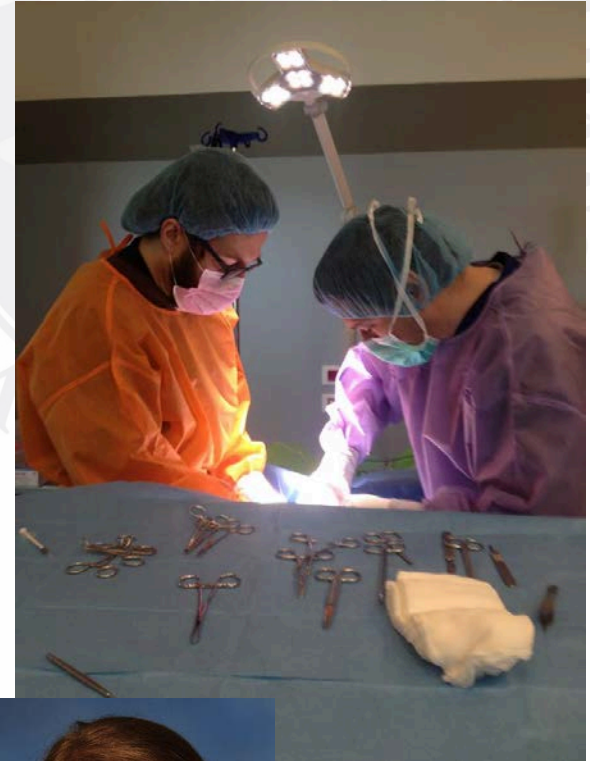
- Extremely worthwhile
- Get out from the classroom and remind us of our purpose as vets
- Gained confidence in myself
- Became more independent and comfortable in communicating with people
- I enjoyed the constant challenge and the satisfaction of small victories
- The best way to get to know myself
- I saw the pope; drank Chianti in its region
- Gain life experience and professional experience
- Make new connections and friends for life in other parts of the world



What do you feel you gain from this externship?

One of my favorite moments was when I was watching a mass removal on a dog- the doctor turns to me and said, “**I am doing the Tobias method!**” He further explained how his surgical procedure was created by Dr. Tobias who he idolized and envied me for having her as a professor. This moment summed up my appreciation for the international veterinary community. It emphasized the importance of making connections with people across the globe. *We all have the same goal of bettering animal health and by working with one another, important ideas can be exchanged* which have the potential to be revolutionary in our field. I networked with some of the leading equine practitioners in Italy and gained valuable knowledge by watching them work.

Abby Geick 2017



Future collaborations



Evaluation of Alternative Products for Colistin and Zinc Oxide in Prevention and Control of Post-Weaning Piglet Diarrhea

The effect of “GnRH analog” administration for reducing period for estrus synchronization and the fertility of gilts

McClure Scholarship?

Future collaborations



William
Magnone
DVM

Costs

- The cost of this trip can vary tremendously depending on the student (plane ticket, food, travel/excursions, souvenirs, pet boarding etc.).
- Students should expect to spend anywhere between \$5,000 and \$10,000.
- Round-trip plane tickets costs ~\$1,500 - \$2,000,
- Car rentals for 4-6 weeks in Italy cost ~\$600 - \$1,000
- Consider costs for boarding your animals

Thank you for your attention

