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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 6/20/18

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VIN Foundation Announces 2nd Annual Solutions for the Profession Competition Winners

Second annual essay competition provides veterinary students an opportunity to offer insight into ways veterinary schools can help applicants and students.

Davis, CA: The VIN Foundation is excited to announce the results of its second annual Solutions for the Profession Competition. Three winners were awarded cash prizes to help with educational expenses.

This year's competition offered veterinary students an opportunity to share what information would have been helpful to know before applying to veterinary school. It also asked applicants to suggest ways veterinary schools could better communicate the challenges veterinary students face, and realities of the veterinary profession. Over one hundred entries were submitted from around the world, with veterinary student debt and mental health among the most common problems addressed.

VIN Foundation's Board Chairman, Dr. Richard Headley, stated "This essay competition provided an opportunity for veterinary students to suggest ways pre-veterinary and veterinary students can be better prepared, which will help future colleagues, and therefore the veterinary profession as a whole."

Judges found it difficult to select only three winners from the entries. The VIN Foundation Solutions for the Profession Committee selected the top thirty entries in the first round of judging. These essays were assessed by experts in the topic areas, who passed the top seven to three well-known leaders in the veterinary profession. The final judges, after much discussion, selected the winners:

- <u>First place was awarded to Paige Livingston</u>, for her essay on ways to improve student debt education. Paige is entering her fourth year as a student at the University of California at Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine.
- <u>Second place went to Cheyenne Cannarozzo</u> for her innovative suggestion to add resilience to the core competency requirements for veterinary students. Cheyenne is entering her third year at the Cornell University, College of Veterinary Medicine.
- <u>Linnea Thraen won third place</u> with her essay highlighting the need for improved business management education in veterinary school. Linnea has just graduated the University of Minnesota, School of Veterinary Medicine.

Learn more about the VIN Foundation resources at <u>VINFoundation.org/Resources</u>.

The VIN Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit providing tools and resources to support veterinary students and veterinarians throughout their careers, was created by members of the <u>Veterinary Information</u> <u>Network</u> in 2005. Learn more about the VIN Foundation and its programs at <u>http://VINFoundation.org</u>. The VIN Foundation is made possible through generous gifts by individual donors and grants. All <u>gifts</u> made to the VIN Foundation are tax deductible.