

January 21, 2025

Susanne Renberg, Provost's Office  
Faculty Senate, Kansas State University  
CAMPUS

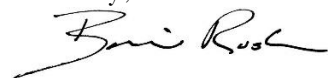
Dear Susanne:

On behalf of the CVM faculty, staff and the student body of the professional program, and in keeping with University Handbook Section F150, I would like to recommend former DVM student Autumn Marie Johnson (Campus ID 861877445) for consideration of a posthumous degree to be awarded during the College of Veterinary Medicine Commencement ceremony on May 16, 2025.

Autumn Johnson matriculated into the DVM program in August, 2021 as a potential member of the DVM Class of 2025. She was killed in a pedestrian/vehicular accident on December 5 2021, while aiding a victim of a separate accident on I-70 just west of Topeka. Autumn was a widely-recognized and respected classmate, a CVM student ambassador, worked in the Veterinary Health Center as a veterinary aide, and, although she was a citizen of Alaska, she attended Kansas State as a pre-veterinary undergraduate student prior to entering the DVM program. At the time of her death, Autumn was in good academic standing and in respect to conduct. Autumn's 2025 classmates have requested to recognize her as a member of the class at the CVM May 2025 commencement ceremony. An overwhelming majority of CVM faculty recently voted to support granting Autumn a posthumous DVM degree during Spring 2025 graduation. Autumn's parents, Darlene and Mike Johnson and her brothers, Alex and Brendan are expected to attend the 2025 CVM graduation ceremony.

In short, Autumn meets the requirements of Section F150 for award of a posthumous DVM degree. The award is supported by her class and the CVM faculty. I support the decision to grant Autumn a posthumous DVM degree.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Rush, DVM, MS, DACVIM  
Hodes Family Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine  
Kansas State University