



Pictured above: 'Totally Wild' films health checks with SVS equine medicine students at UQ, March 2018

03/2018

Welcome to the March 2018 edition of the SVS Newsletter. Remember to send through any interesting news items for inclusion in future newsletters.

## Recent events and news

### Easter Morning Tea

Another lovely morning tea was held under the trees on Thursday 29 March - new staff were welcomed and Easter wishes extended to everyone.



### SVS lecturer is UQ Women Create Change Ambassador

Dr Rebecca Dunlop is one of the UQ Ambassadors for the SAGE Pilot of Athena SWAN. The national SAGE Pilot of the Athena SWAN program is addressing and working to improve gender equity in the science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine (STEMM) disciplines. UQ is one of 45 Australian organisations, including universities, medical research institutions and government research institutions, involved in the program.

Bec, one of our Senior Lecturers in SVS, is one of the UQ ambassadors chosen to represent more than half of the university's diverse community of students and staff who are women.

We know Bec as a lecturer in physiology but outside of academia, Rebecca trains in boxing, and began competing in bouts in 2017. Rebecca has a young daughter who joined Rebecca on a large field project in 2014 when she was only 5 weeks old.

Seeing Rebecca successfully juggling motherhood and a successful career in STEMM has been a powerful message to the many women, just starting their STEMM careers, involved in the project.

Go [here](#) to read her full story.



## Paul Mills - Principal Fellowship



Professor Paul Mills has just been awarded a Principal Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy (HEA) in the United Kingdom. The HEA Fellowship is aligned to the UK Professional Standards Framework, an internationally recognised system for benchmarking success in higher education, and rewards an individual's ongoing commitment to learning and teaching. Prof Mills joins four other Principal Fellows at UQ

(<https://health.uq.edu.au/article/2017/07/uq-teachers-gain-global-accreditation-higher-education-academy>) and this award recognises his institutional, national and international leadership in veterinary education.

Support for fellowship of the HEA is part of UQ's commitment to developing contemporary and comprehensive ongoing professional development provisions that support and reward teaching and learning performance and facilitate career progression ([Student Strategy 2016-2020 White Paper](#); Goal 3, Initiative 4). Prof Mills is the Australasian representative of the Committee for International Veterinary Medical Education (CIVME: <http://aavmc.org/civme.aspx>) and served a 3 year term on the editorial board of the Journal of Veterinary Medical Education.

### Principal Fellows

Principal Fellows are typically:

- highly experienced and/or senior staff with wide-ranging academic or academic-related strategic leadership responsibilities in connection with key aspects of teaching and supporting learning;
- staff responsible for institutional strategic leadership and policymaking in the area of teaching and learning;
- staff who have strategic impact and influence in relation to teaching and learning that extends beyond their own institution.

<https://itali.uq.edu.au/hea-fellowship-pilot-group-2016-2017>



## Visit of Ms Sawako Nii from Nippon Veterinary and Life Science University

Ms Sawako Nii, the International Exchange Program Coordinator at NVLU, is visiting the UQ School of Veterinary Science from March to May 2018. Sawako was awarded a prestigious Endeavour Executive Fellowship to enable her visit. During her time here, Sawako will study how we use online teaching methods for veterinary education. She will also visit ICTE at St Lucia to gain experience in developing online education tools.



Sawako is keen to promote interactions between NVLU and SVS. If you would like to talk with her about your teaching innovations or to discuss research or placement opportunities at NVLU, please contact Sawako at [nii1014@nvl.u.ac.jp](mailto:nii1014@nvl.u.ac.jp)

Photo: Sawako with Anne Beasley and Lyn Knott

## Chronic colic enteroliths and gastric ulcers

Has your horse had on-again off-again colic and you just can't figure out why? At the UQ Equine Specialist Hospital we can help you get to the bottom of it.

There are a number of causes for non-specific signs of chronic or intermittent colic (with or without weight loss and diarrhoea) including enteroliths (intestinal stones), sand colic

and/or diarrhoea, stomach ulcers, worms, inflammatory bowel disease and cancer. To differentiate between these diseases, specialists at the UQ Equine Specialist Hospital employ a number of diagnostic techniques and world-class diagnostic equipment including gastroscopy (passing a 3 meter long fibre-optic camera into the stomach), abdominal ultrasound and abdominal radiographs (x-rays). Depending on the diagnosis, treatment can include surgery and/or medical management.



Enteroliths are a common cause of chronic colic in Queensland and can usually be diagnosed with abdominal radiographs. Mineral is laid down over a period of months to years forming concrete-like stones that can roll around and cause mild colic or can eventually obstruct the bowel causing severe colic.

The horse pictured had a long history of intermittent colic, particularly after cantering. We performed gastroscopy and found that she had severe stomach ulcers. There was also something within the abdomen that was pushing against the stomach wall which may have displaced the stomach acid and contributed to the ulcer formation (see photo below). Abdominal ultrasound revealed that the colon was partially displaced and an enterolith was identified on abdominal radiographs. The horse was taken to surgery and two 2.5kg smooth enteroliths were removed from the right dorsal colon. No wonder she was sore - imagine having that rolling around your colon! The horse was immediately more comfortable post-surgery. Her gastric ulcers were treated with injectable omeprazole and follow up gastroscopy two weeks later showed almost complete resolution of the ulcers.

## 3D printing through UQ Centre

Nick Wiggins from the Centre for Digital Scholarship is coming out to SVS to give a presentation/workshop on 3D printing and modelling. The sessions include Introductory Modelling & Printing, 3D modelling made easy and Turning CT/MRI scans into printable 3D models. All have tremendous value for SVS teaching and clinical staff, not to mention the Hub. See one of the first

images to come through [here](#).

A team of SVS staff have been liaising with Nick and Bill Beach for the past 8 months to create a pipeline via the Hub, for ordering 3D prints from VTH CT scans.

Presentations and workshops may be available on Wednesday 11 April or Friday 13 April. Further information available below. Contact [Fran](#) if you are interested in attending.

[Find out more >>](#)

## Vets for Life 2018

The Vets for Life (VFL) program was undertaken again this year with the incoming first year BVSc cohort. A total of 131 first year students descended on YMCA Leslie Dam for a 2-day program of activities and presentations designed to welcome these students into the veterinary science family.

The themes were getting to know each other, resilience, emotional intelligence and a holistic approach to their chosen career. Prof. Nigel Perkins, Head of School, commenced the activities and we also had support from Student Services with Letitia Norton. Caitlin Wood, a recent graduate, visited to speak about her journey through Vet School and into practice in Warwick. Mal Jones and Margie McEwen described personality types and how this may affect day-to-day choices. A camp fire rounded off a very busy day.



There was great feedback from the first year students as it gave them the chance to meet their colleagues, staff and students in higher years. A big note of appreciation to the student facilitators in years 2-4 who gave up their time to contribute to VFL - it would not be possible without them. A big thanks also to the many staff who could attend and contribute to this valuable welcome to the vet program.

## Staff travels

Professor Paul Mills recently travelled to the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) Annual Conference in Washington. Paul is on the Council for Veterinary Medical Education (CIVME) panel which gave an update on their activities. CIVME works to advance the quality of international academic veterinary medicine by encouraging communication and collaboration among regions and disseminating information about innovations and best practices.

---

## Teacher Showcase

### Dr Donna Parker BVSc(Hons) MANZCVS (Small Animal Medicine)

Donna is best known her role as a clinician and clinical educator in the general practice service of UQ Vets Small Animal Hospital. In her role, Donna teaches into both the Veterinary Science and Veterinary Technology programs. In the preclinical program, Donna has made a great contribution to the communication/consultation workshops, helping to bridge the gap between what is taught in the curriculum and what is modelled and nurtured in the clinic. The Small Animal GP rotation in the Hospital is a very popular rotation amongst the students, and regularly receives outstanding student evaluations.



So what makes Donna such a great teacher? Donna is really passionate about preparing students for their first day of clinical practice - the focus of the rotation is very much on core clinical skills, client consultation skills and common general practice problems to tackle. Donna loves teaching and has a genuine interest in students' success through their degree and beyond. She is currently working on a project to enhance the structure of feedback given in the GP rotation - developing a 360 degree feedback system to allow students to track how they're going from all viewpoints (including their own reflections, staff feedback, and feedback from clients!). Donna is an active member of the SVS Vet Ed Network and contributes regularly to the monthly EMS Happy Hour sessions for final year veterinary students.

The following student testimonials highlight the impact of Donna's teaching approach:

*"Donna Parker is a very professional, approachable and kind natured lecturer and clinician. While working with her throughout veterinary school I always felt a sense of being a colleague rather than just a student. During my final year prac in the VMC Donna was very encouraging and always made me feel that I could ask for help without being judged or feeling inadequate. Her teaching approach is very effective for someone who is a mature age student who often feels out of place with the younger students. Outside of her teaching role she was always available to talk to about life in general and any other concerns I had along the way. She genuinely cares about her students and wants them to succeed."*

*"As a very recent veterinary graduate of 2017, I was fortunate enough to have been taught by Dr Donna Parker in my final year of my degree. Dr Parker was by far one of the best clinical educators that I came across in all of my tertiary education. Her ability to work with students in a professional yet approachable manner is second to none. One attribute that truly separates Dr Parker from any other clinical educator is her ability to offer support and mentoring that truly has a substantial and lasting effect on student welfare. Even today the advice I received from her still helps me in my career, and for that I am extremely thankful. In summation Dr Parker is an outstanding member of the university and the veterinary profession as a whole, and an asset to any future veterinary student that is fortunate enough to be taught by her."*

### **Vital Statistics**

**Years of Tertiary Teaching:** 7

**Discipline Areas:** Small Animal General Practice

**Course Coordination:** VETS5030

**Teaching Courses:** ANIM2501, VETS1018, VETS2001, VETS3009, VEYS3024, VETS3040, VETS3044, VETS3050, VETS3060, VETS3070, VETS4010

**Clinical contribution:** General Practice- Head of Service. 80-100% on clinics.

**Student Quotes:**

"Donna is one of the best teachers in the entire School. Genuinely cares and loves teaching, which is refreshing" ( VETS5030 Secat 2017)

"Donna was wonderfully enthusiastic with excellent communication and rapport building skills with both clients and students. She was very encouraging and helpful which was conducive to an excellent learning environment and meant that this rotation was a great experience." (VETS5030)

Brought to you by the SVS Vet Ed Network

## **Funny bugs**

Professor Mal Jones recently shared the following memes created by his students. Parasitologists do have a sense of humour....







## SVS represented at AVA Conference

The UQ Vet School was well represented at the annual AVA (Qld Division) conference, held on Hamilton Island 10-11 March. With a theme of anaesthesia, speakers included Margie McEwan (analgesia and welfare, opioids), Bob Doneley (avian anaesthesia), and Brandon Fraser (bovine anaesthesia and surgery in the field).

The conference was well attended, with 70 attendees enjoying the island lifestyle while learning new techniques and revising old principles. Nigel Perkins, Head of School, also attended and members appreciated his support.

To top it off, our former Head of School (Glen Coleman) stepped down from his role as president of the Queensland Division, leaving it in great condition for his successor, Margie Reilly, Deputy Head of School at JCU.

## Successful projects for funding

The Faculty recently announced the successful projects to receive funding from the Webb-Jenkins Endowment Fund along with cash donations from Hilary Huey. Hilary also donated an additional \$3000 after receiving the EOIs so she could support three projects, including the following:

- EX30T with TS-HD LITE Retina colour camera submitted by UQ Vets Dayboro
- Conversion of module 2 in VETS2033 into Smart Sparrow lessons submitted by Rachel Allavena
- LabGear Refrigerator, Freezer and Bath, submitted by Dr Purcell

Unsuccessful projects will be retained for future funding opportunities. Additionally, should you have any suggestions for individuals or industry groups that can be approached, please email [Julia Keith](#).

Hilary would like to thank everyone for preparing their EOI's, and while she would have liked to have supported them all, she was happy to support 3 projects.

## Vale Professor Rod Campbell

SVS was recently advised of the death of Professor Rod Campbell, the founding Professor of Veterinary Science at James Cook University. The funeral was held on 29 March at the Mt Gravatt Cemetery. Prof Campbell was much loved and admired, especially through the Veterinary Pathology community.

## Upcoming Events

### **SVS Accreditation Visit**

The AVMA Council on Education will have an **accreditation site visit** to SVS on **9 - 14 September, 2018**.

## **Courses, workshops, conferences & seminars**

**3D Printing Workshop** 11 April and 13 April Contact [Fran](#).

**OHS for Supervisors and Managers Course** is planned for Gatton Campus on **11<sup>th</sup> April** and **14<sup>th</sup> June**.

This course is **mandatory** for staff **who supervise and/or manage staff and/or students**. The course is applicable for HEW 8 and below Professional Staff Supervisors and Managers (and equivalent level Academic staff).

Find more information about the course and register [here](#).

**Note: Senior Managers (HEW 9 and above)** should refer to the [Health, Safety & Wellness \(HSW\) Senior Managers Training course](#).

## **In case of an emergency**

In case of confirmed emergencies such as gas explosions, life threats, confirmed fire, please contact **000** - remember to call out of UQ first by dialling another 0 first, i.e. **0-000**.

For medical emergencies, UQ still mandates UQ Security be contacted first, all hours, on ext **53333** or **3365 3333**.

In both cases, remember to let them know you are calling from UQ GATTON campus and in the latter case, your building number.

**8114 (Veterinary Science Building)**

**8106 (Veterinary Teaching Building including Anatomy, Post-mortem, MPL and Histo labs)**

**8156 (Veterinary Medical Centre)**

**8179 (Clinical Studies Centre)**

School of Veterinary Science  
The University of Queensland Gatton  
Campus  
Tel: 07 5460 1834  
Fax: 07 5460 1922  
Email: [vetenquiries@uq.edu.au](mailto:vetenquiries@uq.edu.au)  
CRICOS Provider No:00025B

[veterinary-science.uq.edu.au](http://veterinary-science.uq.edu.au)