



07/2018

Welcome to this month's edition of the SVS Newsletter. Remember to send through any interesting news items for inclusion in future newsletters.

Recent events and news

Successful Open Day and Ekka

A big thank you to all those staff and students who helped showcase SVS at our recent engagement events.

Gatton Open Day, on Sunday 19 August, was a great success. We had overflowing lecture theatres, and large numbers of people touring our facilities. The general consensus was that visitor numbers were down, but general engagement was good. TSXPO and St Lucia Open Day stands were also popular and well attended.

SVS also provided veterinary services to the EKKA, involving not only care for the animals at the show but also showcasing our School with show visitors.

These are big events, both the organization beforehand and on the day, and we are all appreciative of this commitment by our staff and students.

Minister's visit to Gatton Campus

Professor Melissa Brown, Executive Dean Faculty of Science, Ms Janelle Zahmel, Director UQ Gatton Campus, Professor Nigel Perkins, Head of School, School of Veterinary Science, and Professor Neal Menzies, Head of School, School of Agriculture and Food Science met with the Honourable Mark Furner MP, Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries on Tuesday 31st July. Following the discussion, the Minister undertook a driving tour of the campus focussing on the Queensland Animal Science Precinct and Research Dairy before stopping at a



SAFS plant research field site to inspect the nitrogen research program being undertaken at Gilbert Field on the Southern side of the Campus.

Undergraduates excelling in research

Final year veterinary science students, Shaun Pratt & Alexandra Cunneen, under the supervision of Wendy Goodwin, have successfully presented their research projects at national conferences in July. Shaun and Ali both presented for the Veterinary Anaesthesia & Analgesia Chapter, ANZCVS, Science Week with Shaun winning the Young Speaker Award for his presentation "*Total intravenous anaesthesia with ketamine, medetomidine and guaifenesin compared with ketamine, medetomidine and midazolam in horses*".

Ali then travelled to Sydney and presented at the 2018 Bain Fallon Memorial Lectures and was awarded the EVA Young Member Group Poster or Abstract Prize for her oral abstract presentation. These presentations are the result of a series of three projects which Shaun and Ali worked on last year as part of the UQ Winter Research Scholar Program. Both Shaun and Ali are also working on publishing these results in peer reviewed journals with the projects either submitted or in final draft preparation. Congratulations Shaun and Ali!

Congratulations Tesh and Caitlin!

Congratulations to Tesh Smalle and Caitlin Mack for successfully passing the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists Membership examinations! Tesh was awarded Membership of the College in Small Animal Surgery and Caitlin was awarded Membership of the College in Small Animal Medicine.

Science Week ANZCVS 2018

The ANZCVS, Science Week was held at the QT Gold Coast 5-7th July and this year registrations reached maximum capacity with over 650 delegates registered to attend over the three days. School of Veterinary Science staff made a huge contribution across all Chapters with staff presenting scientific abstracts and invited presentations ensuring that the programme was of a high scientific quality. Additionally, many staff served on Chapter Executive and College Examination committees.

Next year the venue is changing to the Star, Broadbeach Gold Coast to allow for an even bigger scientific program and more delegates.

Wendy Goodwin is serving as the 2019 Science Week Convenor so please [contact her](#) with any feedback, ideas or queries regarding Science Week 2019.

Science Week will be on 4-6 July 2019 at The Star, Broadbeach.

Minimally invasive procedure

Following stent placement earlier this year on a [dog's airways](#)*, Dr Erika Meler, specialist from the Small Animal Internal Medicine Department and resident Dr Caitlin Mack have successfully performed another novel minimally-invasive procedure to fix a malformation in the urinary tract of a puppy. Dr Erika Meler has been trained in the US in minimally invasive techniques and is particularly interested in developing the use of these techniques here in Australia.



"By proceeding with this intervention, we avoided a pretty serious surgery to this puppy and that's a significant outcome in terms of the pet wellbeing. It was also a great learning opportunity for our resident to be involved in such an exciting procedure. No need to say that like most great things, it was the result of a team effort which involved anaesthesia, imaging and surgery staff. These types of procedures show that our Hospital is at the cutting edge of veterinary medicine which we should be really proud of!"

Student Feedback on Effective Teaching

Faculty of Science students with a GPA of 6.600 or more each semester receive a Dean's Commendation award. They are also asked to nominate their most effective teacher so that the Faculty can acknowledge their effort and identify successful models of the teaching process.

Congratulations to SVS's Professor Mal Jones, who has received a Dean's Commendation for Excellent Teaching in Semester One, 2018.

SVS students in the 3MT

The School's 3MT competition was held in July, with 18 SVS HDR candidates participating. Everyone did a great job and it was very impressive to hear about the exciting areas of research being undertaken within SVS. Congratulations to our winners!!

Winner Michelle Story, PhD Candidate, *Culturing Hope for Dogs with Prostate Cancer*

Runners Up

Dana Cusano, PhD Candidate, *Don't take that tone with me! The function of social sounds in humpback whales*

Halley Gora Ravuri, PhD Candidate, *Developing Topical Painkilling Gels in Dogs*

People's Choice

Dana Cusano, PhD Candidate, *Don't take that tone with me! The function of social sounds in humpback whales*

Sara Pagliarani, PhD Candidate, *Understanding the Chlamydia Reproductive Disease in Koalas*



Teacher Showcase

Teacher's name - Malcolm Heath

Discipline area/role in SVS: Director, UQ Vets Dayboro

Qualifications: BVSc.

Mal is a passionate teacher responsible for generations of students developing an interest in mixed practice and large animal medicine. He leads the team at Dayboro, where students spend an intensive period learning in a highly



practical and realistic setting. The value of this experience is evident with many recent graduates applying for the intern and residency positions.

What makes Mal such a great teacher is his dedication to all aspects of student learning, including ensuring that the support staff are a major part of the teaching team. His record of attending every Graduate Dinner for the last 17 years and his continued guidance, even once graduated, provide a powerful role model. A common comment from students is that Mal is calm and positive, invaluable attributes for nervous final years about to graduate. "Malcolm's guide to antibiotic use in cattle" becomes a literal bible for students struggling to put it all together and apply what they have learned.

Mal's relaxed style of teaching is perhaps best encapsulated by his mantra of "see one, do one, teach one". His "hands on" approach to teaching allows students during their clinical rotation in their final year to both run consults and work through cases as though they were the veterinarian in a safe and nurturing environment.

Vital Statistics

Years of Tertiary Teaching: 17 years at UQ

Discipline Areas: Clinical training, particularly large animal medicine

Teaching Courses: VETS1025 and VETS3024, VETS5024

Elective course: VETS5016

Student Quote: *"Malcolm has harnessed an incredible gift - the ability to teach veterinary students in a way that empowers them and inspires self-confidence."* Dr Sam Jones

"What would Malcolm do?" is a question I often ask myself when faced with a tricky clinical (or even non-clinical) problem." Dr Garnett Hall

Brought to you by the SVS Vet Ed Network

Nway's unexpected meeting

I am a PhD student of the University of Queensland. I am also a lecturer of the University of Veterinary Science, Yezin, Myanmar.

I recently visited the Puffing Billy Station in Melbourne to ride the steam trains.

When we arrived there, we met (by chance) with Mr. Bill Shorten, Leader of Australian Labor party. He was coming for steam train riding as a family time with his daughters.

Pictured L-R: Nway Kyai Mone(me), Mr. Bill Shorten, Auzar (my son).



Recent farewells

The school farewelled Andres Ardila Arvila, Anne Beasley, Nana Satake and Tesh Smalle at morning tea on Friday 24th August.

Andres joined UQ in 2003 as an assistant technician, became a scientific officer in 2005 and clinical academic in 2014. Andres and Rod were the first SVS staff members to move to the Gatton Campus in 2005. Andres has joined Boehringer, so hopes to continue to have connections with the school.



Anne joined UQ in 2008 as a casual teacher in veterinary parasitology, then a research assistant in 2010. She undertook a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship from 2012 to 2017, then in 2018 in

the Accreditation Project Office. Anne has moved to an academic appointment at SAFS

Nana joined UQ in 2018 as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the School of Animal Studies. She left UQ to become a Senior Reproductive Scientist at Taronga Conservation Society from 2010 to 2014, returning to UQ in 2014. Nana held a research office role in SVS from 2016 to 2018 and has moved to a new role in SAFS.

Tesh Smalle joined UQ SVS on a 12 month fixed term appointment in August 2017 as a Small Animal Surgeon.

We wish Andres, Anne, Nana and Tesh well in their new careers.

AVA looking for new members

The Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) is willing to provide a discounted membership fee to academics to recruit new members. The discounted rate of \$513.50 is a 35% discount on the regular \$790 membership fee.

If anyone who is not currently an AVA member but would like to be, please let Jenny Seddon know as we would need to join up a number of new members to secure this rate.

2018 VeSPA Research Conference

On Thursday 19th and Friday 20th July, the Veterinary Science Postgraduate Association (VeSPA) held the Fourth annual School of Veterinary Science Research Conference during the SVS Conference Week. It was a great opportunity for the SVS postgraduate students to practise presenting their research in a supportive environment.

The days were divided into three themes

- small animal, production animal and wildlife, and prizes were given to the best oral presentation in each theme and to the best poster presentation.

Pictured left: L-R: Nway Kyai Mone, best oral presentation on a Production Animal topic, Patharee Oungsakul, best oral presentation on a Small Animal Topic, Tatiana Proboste, best oral presentation on a Wildlife topic and Arvind Sharma best oral presentation on a Production Animal (joint winners).



Thank you to everyone who participated - it was a great day and the standard of the presentations was very high. Special thanks goes to VetPrac, Australia Zoo, Wildlife Health Australia, Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary and Boehringer Ingelheim for providing the prizes, and to Helle Bielefeldt-Ohmann, Helen Owen, Joanne Meers, Paul Mills, Francois Rene-Bertin for being judges and to Joanne Meers and Rebekah Scotney for their talks on the PhD life and on Balancing life as a PostGrad.

Thank you also to Dan Schull for including us in this year Conference Week and for the keep cups!

Arvind Sharma & Nway Kyai Mone: Best Oral Presentation on a Production Animal topic (joint winners) Prize: \$125 travel grant for each winner provided by VetPrac and a notebook for each provided by Boehringer Ingelheim.

Tatiana Proboste: Best Oral Presentation on a Wildlife Topic Prize: \$250 travel grant provided by VeSPA and *Medicine of Australian Mammals* textbook provided by Wildlife Health Australia, a single pass for Australia Zoo offered by Australia Zoo and a notebook provided by Boehringer Ingelheim.

Caitlin Wood: Best Poster Presentation. Prize: a single pass for Australia Zoo offered by Australia Zoo and a notebook provided by Boehringer Ingelheim.

Below L-R: All the presenters of the sessions.

From left to right: Prasanna Weeratunga, Alison Hoger, Nway Kyai Mone, Patharee Oungsakul, Tatiana Proboste, Arvind Sharma, Emily Jones, Halley Gora Ravuri, Sara Pagliarani, Michelle Story and Agnes DeLa Cruz.

Absent: Arash Shahsavari and Caitlin Wood.



VeSPA Writing Retreat

VeSPA would like to invite you to a **postgraduate student writing retreat** at the UQ Moreton Bay Research Station on **Stradbroke Island in October**. Food, accommodation and ferry transport will all be covered and there will be computer and internet access. You will just need to get to the ferry terminal at Cleveland and also pay a small **deposit** that will be refunded on attendance of the retreat.



It will be a great opportunity to focus on your writing in an environment away from the distractions of everyday life. We all know how easily writing time can be neglected due to all the other demands of being a postgrad student.

We have a tentative booking for these dates:

Monday 1st to Friday 5th October; Sunday 14th through Thursday 18th October.

For further information please contact Sara at s.pagliarani@uq.net.au

Cheers
VeSPA.

2018 Early Career Academic Program

This program is targeted to **Academic level A and B** and aims to support early career academics to transition from being a leading academic to an academic leader and involves five half day sessions with contributions from a range of senior level academics. The program presents a great opportunity to build professional networks and develop the career capabilities required as an **academic leader**.

The program targets Level A or B staff, in approximately their first five years of employment following PhD completion. This stream of the program is for Teaching & Research/Research Only/Teaching-focussed/Clinical academic staff.

Program Dates

6th September (9am - 12pm) - International House Seminar Room

13th September (9am - 12pm - Research Only academics) - International House Seminar Room &

13th September (1.30pm - 4.30pm Teaching & Research/Teaching-focussed/Clinical academic staff) - International House Seminar Room

24th September (9am - 12pm) - Learning Innovation building 17, room 202

27th September (9am - 12pm) - Learning Innovation building 17, room 202

4th October (9am - 12pm) - Learning Innovation building 17, room 202

For further details about the program and to register an EOI please refer to:
<https://staffdevelopment.hr.uq.edu.au/course/CAEECA>

National Antimicrobial Resistance and Stewardship Forum

The Forum will be held at the University of Melbourne on Thursday 1 November and Friday 2 November.

As part of the forum, a number of workshops focusing on different professional groups will be offered on Thursday, 1 November (and a general practice workshop on 17 November). The workshops on 1 November include:

- a nursing and AMS workshop
- a veterinary AMS workshop
- a genomics workshop
- a drug-discovery workshop
- a sepsis workshop. The sepsis workshop is by invitation only (for participants of a current state-wide collaborative project in Victoria).

An AMS for general practice workshop will be delivered on Saturday, 17 November, during Antimicrobial Awareness Week.

The costs of registration are as follows: workshops on 1 & 17 November (free); symposium on 2 November (\$50); and students (free).

If you are a **student** and would like to attend the symposium on 2 November, please contact organisers directly using your student e-mail account and the contact form on the [forum webpage](#).

Vale Dr Brian Burns

Dr Brian Burns died recently after a battle with cancer. Brian was a world- regarded beef industry genetics scientist with a reputation for being a passionate, dedicated and highly regarded beef researcher and communicator.

He had a long career in the QLD Department as a beef extension officer before moving into a research role, spending recent years as a Senior Research Fellow with QAAFI and Senior Principal Scientist with DAF Rockhampton.

Brian has been a long time collaborator with many other researchers from the School of Veterinary Science, SAFS and QAAFI. Brian was awarded a NABRC Medal for achievements in beef research in 2016.

Upcoming Events

SVS Accreditation Visit The AVMA Council on Education will have an **accreditation site visit** to SVS on **9 - 14 September**

R U Ok? Day Thursday 13 September Event- Mental health recovery and wellness talk by Joe Williams, former NRL player. Emmanuel College, UQ St Lucia. 9.30 - 11.30am Register [here](#).

BVetTech Third Year end-of-year dinner 20 November Victoria Golf Park, Brisbane. Staff are invited to this cocktail dinner. Email the [Committee](#) if interested.

BVSc Class of 2018 Graduation Dinner Saturday 8 December Hillstone Golf Course, St Lucia

Courses, workshops, conferences & seminars

Effective time management for researchers: This session will be run by the Grad School at St Lucia on **7 August**. [View further information](#).

Fire Extinguisher Training the next session at Gatton Campus is scheduled for **25th October**. To register, click [here](#).

2019 AVA Conference AVA's Veterinarians in Education Research and Academia (VERA) SIG is inviting veterinarians involved in education to submit abstracts for paper presentations during the 2019 AVA Conference in Perth. These will most likely be presented Tuesday 7 May 2019. **The deadline for submission of paper presentation abstracts is Friday 7 September, 2018.** Further information [here](#).

Updates on support

While several of SVS staff have completed a 2 day-long mental health first aid training and shorter training of the same programme through UQ HR, Dr Myat Kyaw-Tanner, SVS Health & Safety Officer, is in the process of having condensed training sessions specifically on how to assist students with mental health conditions scheduled for the Gatton Campus.

UQ has also recently implemented [24/7 Counselling Support](#).

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)

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