



08/2018

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

### Great teamwork for the Veterinary Accreditation Visit 9-14 September

From 9<sup>th</sup> - 14th September, the School hosted the Accreditation Site Team representing our accrediting bodies AVBC (Australasia), AVMA (North America) and RCVS (United Kingdom).



The School was sparkling clean and we definitely showcased our excellent students, staff and facilities and impressed the Site Team. A big thank you to everyone in the School; you all played your part in the preparations and/or the visit itself!

The visit was very positive with commendations in a number of areas, including:

- Staff and students and alumni are positively engaged with the school and the mission
- Good level of Faculty and UQ support for the School
- Huge positive on facilities particularly cattle handling facilities, Clinical Skills Hub, Clinical Studies Centre
- Our hospitals and staff at Dayboro, RSPCA, SAH and ESH were recognized as providing quality, integrated clinical experiences
- Overall condition of Gatton Campus and teaching facilities in general
- Library renovation and extended hours

While the Site Team does not provide information on the final outcome of our accreditation

status, they do provide information on how the School has performed against the accreditation standards. There were a small number of issues where the Site Team have asked for further reports over time and some actions, as we expect to arise from such a visit, but the overall result was very positive and a fantastic achievement! The Site Team now report back to their respective accrediting bodies on our performance against the standards and the accrediting bodies make a final ruling on our accreditation status - this is not likely to happen until March-April 2019.

Below- Accreditation Site Team photo 2018



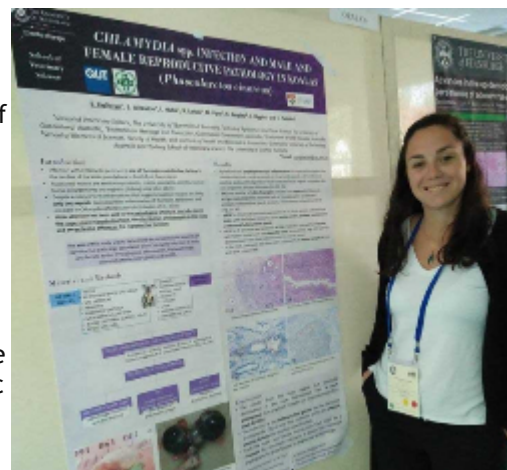
## Successful presentations at international conferences

**Tinika Gillespie**, Anaesthesia Technician from the Small Animal Hospital, and **Trish Farry**, Clinical Instructor in Anaesthesia, attended the International Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Symposium in New Orleans in September. Tinika gave a lecture to a full house!



**A/Prof Chiara Palmieri** and her PhD student, **Sara Pagliarani**, attended the joint ESVP (European Society of Veterinary Pathology) and ECVP (European College of Veterinary Pathologists) congress 2018 in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, presenting two oral communications and 6 posters.

Sara did a great job showcasing her research on reproductive pathology associated with Chlamydia spp. infection in koalas in a comprehensive 10-minute talk, while Chiara gave a presentation on the standardisation and classification of canine prostatic lesions from a collaborative research involving veterinary pathologists, oncologists and surgeons from Brazil, US, Canada, Italy.



In addition, one poster with the PhD candidate **Michelle Story** as a first author was granted one of the 6 poster awards. Well done!

## Happy 8th Anniversary to the SVS Equine Hospital

The Equine Hospital was officially opened on 18 September, 2010, and continues to go from strength to strength.

The ESH has an evolving team of specialists, with an expanding research footprint. Upgrades

have been done on the flooring and recovery box, and a new MRI planned for installation this year.



## Associate Professor Bob Doneley awarded

Congratulations to Associate Professor Bob Doneley on being awarded the T.J. Lafeber Avian Practitioner of the Year Award at ExoticsCon in Atlanta USA earlier this week.

Dr. T.J. Lafeber was recognized as a pioneer in companion bird medicine and the human-companion bird bond. His concern for the health and welfare of his avian patients led him to develop medical treatments, diagnostic techniques, and nutritionally balanced foods. Dr.

Lafeber's lectures were infused with his caring demeanor and enthusiasm, inspiring students and veterinarians alike to advance the fledgling field of companion bird medicine.

The T.J. Lafeber Avian Practitioner Award is presented to an outstanding practitioner who is advancing the quality of health care for companion birds. Award recipients are selected by an independent committee of members from the [Association of Avian Veterinarians](#)



Important criteria for this award include:

- Clinical excellence
- Innovation
- Promotion of the profession
- Contributions to the knowledge base
- Caring and compassion to their avian patients and clients

Congratulations Bob on this deserved recognition from your peers.

## Albert goes to USA for Endurance Conference and Equestrian Games

Albert Sole, one of our Equine Surgery Specialists, recently returned from a very interesting trip to the east coast of USA. IVEC II (Second International Veterinary Endurance Conference) and WEG 2018 (World Equestrian Games) were held in Tryon, North Carolina, USA, on the 9<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> September 2018.



The first part of the journey took place in Hendersonville (North Carolina) as a co-organiser and speaker at the second edition of the International Veterinary Endurance Conference- a conference for veterinarians and the stakeholders involved in the sport of endurance riding. It was a great success with many attendees from all over the world.

The World Equestrian Games were held in Tryon, North Carolina and Albert was involved with the Australian Endurance Team as the Assistant Team Veterinarian. Unfortunately, due to



officials and organizers failing in the morning of the competition day, the race was re-started in the middle of the day and cancelled afterwards due to the weather conditions of heat and humidity. Not a day to remember for the discipline but an overall great experience abroad for our equine surgeon Albert Sole.



## Workshop for RAAF military working dog handlers

Mark Haworth from the Emergency and Critical Care department at the SVS Teaching Hospital has developed a new Advanced Procedures Workshop for RAAF military working dog handlers.

This weekend workshop, held on 8 September, taught techniques designed to maximise canine trauma survival in pre-hospital tactical emergency casualty care. Ash Ross from the CSC was keen to assist and as usual made a fantastic contribution on the day in assisting the trainees.

The workshop was well received and will now be used in conjunction with the biannual First Aid Course for RAAF military working dog handlers, also held here at SVS.



## New staff appointments

Following a highly competitive (and lengthy) recruitment process, Rachel O'Donnell, Team Coordinator Student Administration, is pleased to advise two positions within the SVS Student and Academic Administration team have recently been finalised.

1. Karen Mundt has been appointed the Student and Academic Administrative Officer on a full-time continuing basis and will be a shared resource between SVS and the Faculty of Science, dependent on workload priorities for the individual areas. Karen comes with a wealth of knowledge due to her many and varied roles within UQ and most recently as the GSO for SVS. We are all very pleased to have her on board in this new role. Congratulations, Karen!

2. Courtney Smart has been appointed the Student and Academic Administration Assistant on a fixed-term contract for 6mths. Courtney brings with her a high level of customer service experience and will be assisting us with front counter duties and various other tasks to support the core functions of the student and academic admin team. If you haven't already done so, please drop by Reception to introduce yourself when next in 8114. Welcome, Courtney!

We appreciate your continued patience during this transition phase of new staff, new roles, returning staff and some duties/responsibilities being redefined as a result of all the changes that have occurred within the admin team this year. If in doubt of who to contact, Rachel encourages you to email '[Vet Internal Admin](#)' and one of the team will be able to assist.

## Welcome Dr Whitten

Dr Grant Whitten has recently joined the Anaesthesia & Analgesia section at the VTH.

Grant is an experienced healthcare professional and veterinarian, who has worked in human healthcare and critical care environments for approximately 10 years, and some of this work also included secondments to a rescue helicopter service. An opportunity to study Veterinary Science involved a move to Western Australia to study at Murdoch University, where he

graduated with a degree in Veterinary Science. Grant then worked in small and mixed animal practice for a number of years, before returning to Murdoch University to complete an anaesthesia internship and the Graduate Diploma in Education (tertiary). Most recently, Grant has completed the Anaesthesia & Critical Care Residency at the University of California, Davis, and he will go on to sit DACVAA board certification examinations in 2019.

Please welcome Dr Grant Whitten to SVS and UQ VETS.



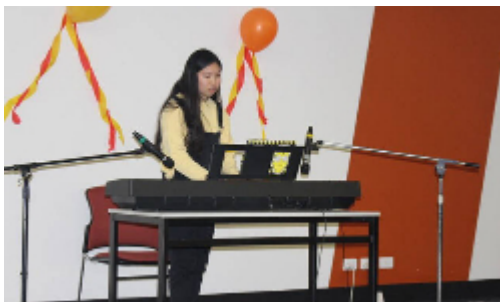
## Cultural Diversity Festival

Diversity is a basic characteristic of human society, and also the key condition for a lively and dynamic world. To celebrate the cultural diversity of students and staff in our School we conducted the 1<sup>st</sup> SVS Cultural Diversity Festival on the 11 September 2018. About 150 students and staff attended the event. The agenda was intelligently interspersed with entertainment and thought provoking takes of knowledge. We had wonderful musical, dance and poetry performances from students and inspiring talks by staff members. Highlights included heartfelt songs accompanied by acoustic guitar, an exquisite performance of a Chinese Pop song on the piano, an Indian classical dance Bharatanayam - 'Thillana' - a celebratory dance to peppy tunes and quick beats, traditional New Zealand dance TAPA HOKI, a humorous poem about an Aussie cowboys' experience in the air rather than on horseback and a Japanese fisherman's dance that almost set the stage on fire!



Remaining true to the theme of the day, the spread of dinner was also characteristic. Amidst good music, hearty fellowship and in a warm sense of camaraderie, everyone enjoyed the hot samosas and gulab jamun with ice cream, a typical sweet and savoury combo from India. The Chinese hot pot was made fresh. Bringing in the local flavors, the live cooking of Aussie BBQ made the platter complete.

The event was organised by the International Veterinary Student Association under the leadership of its president, Pavithra Ramesh and financially supported by the HoS. Don't worry if you were unable to attend - we have recorded the whole event and the UQ Comms team will develop a blog about this event with links to the various performances. We hope to make this an annual or biannual happening; hence we are always looking for more hidden talents!



## Congratulations

The lovely Deb Laws, from the CSC, married John Hudson on 15 September in the beautiful St Mary's Church on top of the Kangaroo Point Cliffs. Congratulations are extended to the new Mr and Mrs Hudson (right), on a wonderful day with plenty of sunshine.



## Neo's new home

Known for those soulful eyes, adorable forehead wrinkles, the handsome physique, and that ridiculous propeller-wagging-kangaroo-like tail of his - Neo could make any human smile just by simply looking at him.

Adopting him from the CSC was one of the best decisions I have ever made, and he has been such a blessing to me and my family. Loving him and providing him with a forever-home was one thing, but Neo was just overflowing with love to give and I thought why not share this overwhelming blessing with others who needed it?

It was then when I came across Delta Therapy Dogs - a program involving testing and training volunteers and their pet dogs to become certified therapy teams. Teams visit sick children and adults in hospitals, aged and disabled residents in nursing homes or rehabilitation centers where re-establishing contact with a companion animal enhances the quality of their lives. Neo passed the assessments like a champ and we have never looked back since.



We have been given the pleasure of being in the resident Delta team for Carinity Colthup Manor, a nursing home in Ipswich, visiting the residents once a week. Neo has been aceing his visits and does look forward to them - he has even learnt that "when mommy puts the red scarf on me = work day = grandmas give me more yum yums" and gets all too excited. We hope to venture into children's hospitals as well once Neo has reached his one-year experience mark.

This has also been a humbling and enriching learning experience for me, having met some incredibly inspiring people at the nursing home. It has indeed strengthened my bond with Neo, and moreover has demonstrated how much potential a dog like him could fulfil to make a positive difference in a person's life. What more can you ask in being able to give back to the community with your best buddy in the world?

## Upcoming Events

### Mental Health Week

Mental Health Week is from 6 to 14 October. UQ is presenting some fantastic seminars by inspirational guest speakers throughout October to support our staff and students. An exciting variety of mental health and well-being topics are covered.

These free sessions are being livestreamed to Gatton Campus:

- A bloke's way to wellbeing: Date: 9/10 Time and Venue: 12 - 1pm in 8103-132
- Daily Rituals to calm & energise: Date: 12/10 Time and Venue: 12 - 1pm in 8117-106
- Winning Wellbeing: Date: 10/10 Time and Venue: 9am - 1pm in 8103-132
- Winning Wellbeing: Date: 23/10 Time and Venue: 9am - 1pm in 8106-113
- All about relationships: Date: 30/10 Time and Venue: 9am - 12pm in 8150-153
- Enhance Your Resilience: Date: 30/10 Time and Venue : 12.45 - 4.45pm in 8103-132

Register for any of the presentations, [here](#).

## Teaching and Learning Week 2018

[Teaching and Learning Week 2018](#) is fast approaching - 29 October to 2 November.

The week opens with a keynote address by [Dr Thomas Carey](#) from San Diego State University on "Teaching and Learning for the Future of Work (and Employability)". This will be followed by a student-led employability session and light lunch, so please consider blocking your diaries for Monday morning and attending - [register here](#).

## All welcome to BBQ

The Vet Hospital is hosting a BBQ on Friday 12 October lunchtime, started as a joint venture by Gary Fitzgerald and Ben Ahern. **Randlab** is sponsoring the BBQ and are providing sausages and steaks cooked by volunteer students. All staff are welcome to the patio outside the Hospital lunchroom, including final-year students.

## 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](#).



## UQ Ally Network

The UQ Ally Network is an award-winning program that provides a visible network of well-informed staff who create a safe, welcoming and inclusive space for sex, gender and sexuality diverse people at UQ and in the broader community.

UQ Allies are not experts about matters of sexuality, sex and gender - they are people who strongly support UQ's stance on making the University an accepting, positive, diverse and inclusive space.

In particular, a UQ Ally understands the reasons why:

- many lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, asexual, and queer/questioning (LGBTIAQ+) people are not in positions to speak out on their own behalf, or are fearful of being [harassed or discriminated against](#)
- it is so important to have staff who are prepared to support and participate in developing a positive and inclusive environment for staff and students with diverse sexuality, sex and gender

UQ Allies in SVS include Chris Cowell and Dan Schull. We would like to encourage more SVS staff to consider becoming an Ally.

As a UQ Ally, your role would be to provide a safe and welcoming space for gender, sex and sexuality diverse staff and students. You will become part of the Ally Network to actively participate in creating an inclusive environment on campus for gender, sex and sexuality diverse staff and students.

To become a UQ Ally, you must:

- be committed to creating a supportive and inclusive space for people who identify as gender, sex and sexuality diverse
- complete the [UQ Ally Workshop training program](#).

## Upcoming Events

**Employability Workshop 11 October** Professor Dawn Bennett, John Curtin Distinguished Professor of Higher Education and Director of the Creative Workforce Initiative with Curtin University, will deliver a workshop on **Developing employABILITY**. Dawn is a leading expert on the development of employability. Her research focuses on the development of employability, including identity and graduate work. To [register](#).

**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. Tickets are available until 16 November. Use this link for ticket sales: <https://www.trybooking.com/YPOP>

## Courses, workshops, conferences & seminars

**Fire Extinguisher Training** - the next session at Gatton Campus is scheduled for **25th October**. Register, [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. Further information [here](#).

**13th International Veterinary Congress** May 2-3, 2019 at London, UK. The main theme of the conference is "Emphasizing Contemporary and Emerging Issues in Veterinary Research" Link [here](#) for further information.



## 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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