



Veterinary Science Newsletter

News and events



Introducing Delilah and Dapple

After losing 15 sheep to a dog attack in October last year, the School acquired a donkey hoping that she would protect the flock. Delilah was feral when she arrived at Gatton, but the UQ livestock team have worked with her daily to make her more familiar with people, vehicles, and her new surroundings. The plan has been successful thanks to the skills of Rod Verrall and his team. Delilah is now bonded to her sheep and there have been no dog attacks since her arrival.

Delilah's responsibilities have increased with the birth of a female foal. The School held a baby donkey naming competition, and we are pleased to announce that the winning name is Dapple, after Sancho Panza's donkey from *Don Quixote*. According to the winner, Rachel Allavena, "although just a plain donkey, Sancho loves him dearly and considers him to be a very sturdy and reliable animal." Congratulations Rachel, and thanks to all those who participated in the competition.

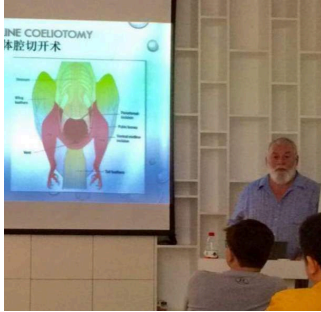


Arrival of "Magic Cow"

Our new "Magic Cow" has arrived from Veterinary Simulator Industries in Calgary, Canada, and it is soon to be rolled out for teaching in the extended Hub. She is a full size, state-of-the-art Canadian Holstein model, with application across a number of fields and courses in the BVSc. If you haven't seen her and her calf, she is currently

on display and used for exam preparation by students on Level 0 of Building 8114.

The cow and her calf will both need new names, and we would like some feedback from staff and students on her use. Please [follow this link to fill in the survey](#) for your chance to win a gift card for the Gatton Campus Coffee Pod. The winner will be announced in Week 1 of semester 2!



Bob Doneley teaches in Shanghai

Bob Doneley has just returned from a week teaching avian anaesthesia, surgery and endoscopy in Shanghai. The course, organised by the European School of Advanced Veterinary Studies, was held during the last week of May. Fifteen vets listened to Bob talk about birds, Dr Brendan Carmel (Melbourne) talk about small mammals, and Professor Sid Knotekz (University of Brno, Czech Republic) talk about reptiles. Shanghai has a population of 27 million people but no veterinary school

and only 250 veterinary practices. The city is remarkably clean and safe for its population density. The food, however, can be challenging to the western palate! Bob can now add chicken gizzards, toad legs, and pigeon to the list of foods he has tried!



Research trip to the Philippines

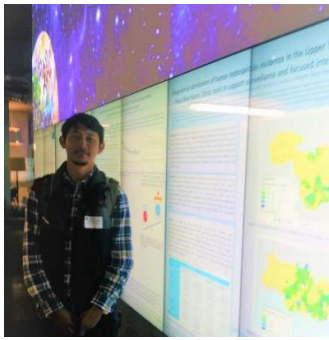
Early in June, Prof. Jo Meers, Dr Tamsin Barnes, Assoc Prof Chiara Palmieri and PhD student Miss Agnes delaCruz travelled to Clark in the Philippines to attend the final review meeting of the project, "Improving the production and competitiveness of Australian and Philippines pig production through better health and disease control."

The project, led by Prof. Pat Blackall from QAAFI, was funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). In the Philippines, the project focused on applying an ecohealth approach to encourage participatory, stakeholder-driven cycles of action-based learning, while at the same time improving the diagnostic capability in disease investigation. In Australia, researchers have developed rapid, high technology diagnostic assays to allow industry to implement better-targeted disease prevention and control programs.

The two days saw presentations of activities and outputs of the project from the research teams, as well as constructive discussions and interactions with Dr Anna Okello (Project Manager for ACIAR Livestock Systems), Dr Romulo Parayao (Philippines reviewer) and Dr Kim Halpin (Australian reviewer). The participants also had the opportunity to visit three farms, appreciate the impact of the strategies proposed by the project on the efficiency of pig production, and enjoy the "boodle fight", a kind of feast inspired by the military style of eating where all the food is served on banana leaves on a long table and eaten with bare hands. Chiara won the award for the most mangoes eaten in one sitting – 7 – that's a lot of mangoes!

SVS at the first Ecosystem Change and Population Health (ECAPH) Symposium

The first Ecosystem Change and Population Health Symposium (ECAPH) was held on June 3-4, 2019 at Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane. The objective of the symposium was to gather scientists working in the field of Ecosystem Change, Population Health and Early Warning. It provides a platform for exchanging points of view and experience and sharing research results through presentations.



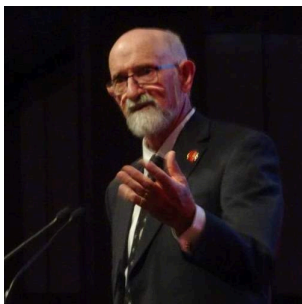
More than 20 international experts gave presentations at the symposium, representing universities such as Harvard University, University of Oxford, Washington University and also major international stakeholders such as the World Health Organization, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention and Queensland Health. The four major themes discussed at the symposium were climate change and health, key drivers of population health, early warning systems of infectious diseases and advancing science for policy. At this symposium, Assoc. Prof. Ricardo J. Soares Magalhaes was invited to share his experience and research on environmental change and zoonotic disease risk. In addition, one of his PhD students, Pandji Dhewantara (pictured) was invited to present his PhD project on predicting the geographical distribution of leptospirosis in China.



UQ Excellence Awards Commendations

The School received two commendations at the recent UQ Excellence Awards ceremony: The Vet School Diversity Team, in the Community diversity and inclusion category. Congratulations to Associate Professor Joerg Henning and Dr Daniel Schull. And the UQ VETS Equine Specialist Hospital Team in the Mental and physical health, safely and wellness category. Congratulations to Associate Professor Ben Ahern, Dr Francois-Rene Bertin, Dr Natalie Fraser, Dr Carlos Medina-Torres, Dr

Albert Sole Guitart, Dr Allison Stewart, Dr Alex Young, and Dr Steven Zedler. Photo: Steven and his son receiving the award.



Christopher Pollitt awarded Gilruth Prize

At the recent May 2019 AGM of the Australian Veterinary Association, Professor Christopher Pollitt was awarded the Gilruth Prize, the AVA's most prestigious award, for outstanding service to veterinary science in Australia. In his acceptance speech Professor Pollitt noted, "Although it is satisfying to have peer reviewed papers published in veterinary scientific journals and to see a body of work, now spanning decades, making a difference in the care and welfare of animals, the ultimate satisfaction is embodied in

receiving an award, such as this, from one's peers. The Gilruth Award for meritorious service in the Veterinary Field for 2019 is the ultimate Australian Award and I am sincerely grateful."

Zoonoses Prioritisation Workshop

Rowland Cobbold attended a workshop this month aiming to prioritise zoonoses in Australia. This task was facilitated by the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture but is being done collaboratively with the Department of Health, responding to the recommendations from the 2017 WHO Joint External Evaluation (JEE) in Australia and subsequent National Action Plan for Health Security (2019-2023). Outcomes from this meeting will allow government and other agencies to prioritise surveillance, response and funding arrangements for zoonoses, using a One Health approach.

Braving sub-zero Canberra weather and the fumes of hurriedly applied paint and correction fluid (the Dept. of Ag has changed its name post-election), the one day meeting included representatives from the animal health, livestock, human and public health, and environment sectors. Much discussion was had, with some collegial jousting about the relative importance of various zoonoses. Interestingly, there was a

clear difference in disease prioritisation by the medical representatives (who ranked based on what they most usually see, e.g. food-borne agents, arboviruses, rickettials) and the vets (who ranked based on what they were most concerned about exposure to, e.g. Hendra virus, leptospirosis, brucellosis). A final list is currently being rationalised and will be released soon.

Teacher showcase



Allison Stewart, Dr

Qualifications:

BVSc (Hons I) MS, DACVIM (LAIM), DACVECC, MANZCVS, PhD

Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Large animal)

Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care

Registered Specialist Equine Medicine and Emergency and Critical Care - Large Animal

History: After graduating from the University of Melbourne in 1997, Allison spent 2 years in mixed practice in Gawler, SA, before travelling to the USA to undertake a residency in Large Animal Internal Medicine at the Ohio State University. She completed her Masters of Science and was awarded Diplomate status of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) in 2002. She then became a faculty member at Auburn University in Alabama and completed a Fellowship in Emergency and Critical Care and obtained Diplomate status in 2007. Allison worked as a specialist and taught veterinary students at Auburn University for 12 years, being promoted to Professor.

In 2014 she returned to Australia working part-time in a small animal practice for 6 months, as an equine general practice locum; mixed practice emergency veterinarian, and Director on the Veterinary Surgeons Board of Victoria, whilst working on a PhD based in Sweden.

Allison returned to academia at The University of Queensland in 2017. Her research and clinical interests include endocrinology, neurology, ultrasonography, ophthalmology, critical care, and infectious disease especially fungal infections and Hendra virus.

Allison is best known for her role as Equine Internal Medicine clinician who teaches multispecies neurology and dermatology and equine ophthalmology, hemolymphatics, oncology and colics.

Favourite quote "The definition of a gas colic is a fart caught sideways!"

What makes Allison a great teacher: Broad previous experience that allows comparisons between species and appreciation of hardships experienced by veterinarians in the real world. Allison always packs her lectures full of case-based material with photos and videos she has taken. She presents the state of the art in patient care as well as practical strategies for dealing with veterinary practice in remote locations, and treatment options for owners with financial limitations. Her VETS4022 equine medicine tutorials and VETS5015 equine medicine rounds discussions promote student input and engagement. They are challenging and encourage students to return to their lecture notes to ensure they understand the fundamentals. If there is ever any spare time in the clinic, Allison will gather students for impromptu tutorials, or round up some horses for dentals or ultrasound practice.

She strives to turn every moment into a teaching opportunity.

Allison enjoys mentoring future clinician-scientists and includes talented veterinary students in summer and winter research projects. Her aim is to build their CV's with abstract presentations and even manuscript co-authorship such that they will be competitive for internships, residencies and graduate programs. Her two 2017/2018 summer students Ka Yuen and Sophia Hinrichsen have 10 abstract submissions each, with Allison as primary author on 7 of these, which will be presented at a national and international conference in 2019. Jordan Fletcher, a 2018/2019 summer student, will have a clinical poster at Bain Fallon conference and has a manuscript almost ready for submission.

"Allison is the only clinician who can make 40 students 'trot' or 'pace' around a classroom!"

Best teaching experience: Whilst teaching in the USA she organised a two week "Tropical Australia" study tour with the American students glamping on the floor of the Townsville aquarium, and in a wild mountain retreat. There were 3 days of reef health, snorkelling with the sharks in the aquarium tanks, coral and shark breeding, a Great Barrier Reef snorkelling and diving day trip, wildlife rehabilitation, wildlife sanctuary behind the scenes tours, extensive beef production, visits to national parks, Magnetic Island trip, aquaculture facility visit, Aboriginal culture and land care, and a day trip for clinical experience to James Cook University. Allison hopes to make this program available to UQ veterinary and vet tech students in the future.

Teaching ambitions: Promoting international experiences for domestic students by externships, and in the future a veterinary study tour to Ecuador (Amazon, Cloud Forest and Galapagos) or Brazil (Amazon, Pantanal and extensive grazing).

Teaching committee/s participation/leadership: SVS Engagement Committee. Convenor of the Inaugural and highly successful UQ VETS Equine Practitioners Conference

Winner Golden Speculum Best Lecturer Award as voted by the 4th year students for 2017 and 2018.

Vital statistics:

Years of teaching: 17

Discipline areas: Equine Medicine, Emergency and Critical Care

Course coordination: Vet Tech course VETS2001

Teaching courses: VETS5015, VETS4022, VETS3060, VETS3070, VETS5015, VETS5017 and VETS2001

Residential Schools: VETS2001

Current RHD students: Nicole Kalnins- DVCLinSci, Evelyn Russo-BVetTech Honours

Clinical contribution: Equine Internal Medicine Rotations

Student testimonials: "treated us as fellow colleagues", "passionate about student learning and encouraging opportunities for student experience each day", "fabulous, loves teaching", "so friendly and approachable", "always excited and positive", "Amazing teacher and lovely person. Really explained things well and taught us real life scenarios", "incredible teacher! She never misses an opportunity to teach", "explained things in a clear and logical manner", "This clinician is invaluable to students.", "What an asset to the vet school", "I feel privileged to have had one-on-one

teaching time with her", "very patient", "very encouraging", "I never felt stupid asking a question", "Allison!! What an absolute angel!"

Brought to you by the SVS Vet Ed Network

Upcoming events and opportunities



School of Veterinary Science 2019 Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) Competition

27 June 2019 2pm Room 153, Animal Studies Building 8150, Gatton Campus. All academic, professional staff, and students are invited to attend. The 3MT is an academic competition that challenges HDR students to describe their research within three minutes to a general audience. The winning student will go on to compete in the 2019 Faculty of Science 3MT Competition.

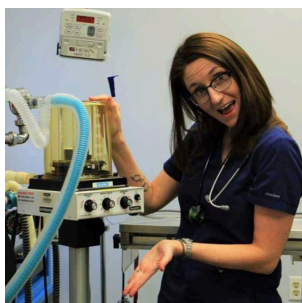
[More information](#)



UQ VETS Nurses and Technicians CE Seminar - Nursing Neurological Small Animal Patients

Thursday 27 June, 7pm start, Hamon Centre. Does the thought of nursing a neurological patient get your head in a spin? Then come along and take advantage of our seminar! The UQ VETS Small Animal Internal Medicine nursing team will be presenting a night seminar on a range of neurological topics. These will include neurological exams, diagnostics, treatment and supportive nursing care. We will provide you with practical information to get you on the right track.

[Register here](#)



2019 UQ VETS Veterinary Nurse & Technicians Conference

13-14 July 2019, St Lucia Campus. Join us at the Veterinary Nurses and Technicians Conference for a weekend of educational sessions that will provide you with practical information across a range of topics. Veterinary nurses and technicians of all experience levels will find something of interest at this continuing education (CE) event.

[More information](#)

Fifth Year BVSc Conference Week 'Straight outa Gatton'

22-26 July in the CTLC (8117-117/118), over the week all of the final year students will be presenting oral case reports as part of the conference programme. By the end, students will have been exposed to up to 105 additional cases seen by their peers, enhancing their learning and prep for practice. Student presentations will be scheduled between 8am-12pm Monday to Friday. Other activities and workshops are scheduled for the afternoons including viva practice sessions, workshops on advanced communication skills, and euthanasia. No students will be rostered onto clinical rotations that week. The talks should be informative and fun, and it would be great to have some interesting questions from the audience so please feel free to join us.

A number of clinicians have agreed to help with the marking of the student oral presentations, if anyone else is interested and available for this (even if just for one of the sessions – 4 hours only & morning tea + coffee provided), we would love to have you

involved! Dan has developed a simple assessment rubric for this and will provide training. For more information please contact Dan Schull.

[Email Dan](#)



Geospatial Methods in the Garden City

21-25 October, 8am-4.30pm, Toowoomba City Library. International expert Dr Emanuele Giorgi will provide an introduction to geostatistical models and their application to disease mapping problems. Participants will learn how to carry out geostatistical analysis using state-of-the-art methods and statistical software.

[More information](#)



UQ VETS Equine Practitioners Conference 2020

The Second Annual UQ VETS Equine Practitioners Conference will be held on Wednesday 5 and Thursday 6 February 2020 with themes of colic, lameness, cardiology and reproduction. There will be eleven 30 minute lectures from our equine specialists, residents and farrier and then six 90 minute laboratories. Hands-on practical skills will be taught with 23.5 hours of CPD.

[More information](#)



Vet Ed Down Under Symposium 11-13 February 2020: *Sharing practice growing together*

The symposium is a two day event on Tuesday 11 and Wednesday 12 February, 2020, promoting veterinary education in the Australia/New Zealand region through the sharing of innovations, ideas and best practise in teaching and learning in an open and friendly atmosphere. Post-conference workshops will be scheduled on Thursday 13 February, 2020.

[More information](#)

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)