



Veterinary Science Newsletter

News and events



SVS hosts inaugural Careers Fair with Clinical Coats Ceremony

This year the School hosted a Careers Fair in conjunction with the annual Clinical Coats Ceremony on 16 October. Students were given an opportunity to meet with potential employers including [Banfield Pet Hospital](#), [Apiam Animal Health](#), [Vet Partners](#), [Brisbane Veterinary Specialist Centre](#), [Vetlink Employment Services](#), [Animal Referral Hospital](#), and the [Department of Agriculture](#). The Careers Fair also provided sponsorship for the Clinical Coats event.

Nearly all of the fourth year students attended the ceremony and the Main Lecture Theatre was filled almost to capacity. Guest speakers Dr Chris Reardon and Dr Kayla Jackson from [Warwick Veterinary Clinic](#) spoke to the students about preparing for their future clinical year and life after graduation. Thank you to our MC Dr Lisa Kidd and to all those who helped to make this event a success.



Diversity Festival 2019 - a festive week of cultural confluence

The international student group at the School of Veterinary Science hosted Diversity Festival this month. This week-long event celebrated the enormous cultural diversity within the school. 'What's Your Calling!' was the main focus of the event. They held a social media campaign where students were asked to post a photograph, literature piece or

drawing, that best captured their inspiration to be a vet. All posts were asked to include #UQVetsInTheMaking to be featured on the [Diversity Festival Facebook page](#).

Along with the social media campaign, other exciting and interactive events on campus included:

Day 1- VetSchool PlayDay

Students participated in a number of team sports - netball, soccer, table tennis and badminton - and cookies! The winners were presented with special personalised hats!

Day 2- Groovy Movie Night

An evening of movies and karaoke with popcorn and pizza! They sang, they laughed and connected as one unit belting out The Beatles and Taylor Swift

Day 3- Mi Casa es Su Casa

This was undoubtedly the highlight of the week. Stalls representing different countries, ethnicities were set up along the Central Walkway. Each stall had some snacks from their region and a fun activity to help people understand the culture better. Learning the language of the Danish while snacking on traditional Danish scones, Victorian sponge cake and British trivia, Lamingtons and Aussie slang... we also had stalls from India, Hong Kong, Singapore, Canada and South Korea! The diversity within UQ Vet School was well demonstrated and even better received.

Grand finale!

The week ended with a grand finale at the Harmon Centre. Students showcased their talents with a few cultural presentations of music and dance numbers. Winners of the social media contest were also announced based on the entry with the most votes. The Associate Head of School, Rachel Allavena presented the prizes.

The day ended with a massive feast with delicacies from all over the world. Samosas and gulab jamuns, hot pot, kimchi fried rice and Nanaimo bars, it was a night to remember!

The day may have ended but an association for life began within the students from diverse backgrounds. The spirit of camaraderie, mutual respect and joy of their togetherness made everyone feel warm, welcomed and left them all asking for more.



Martina Smith named as VNCA Student Vet Nurse of the Year for 2019

Last week Martina Smith, the CSC's first indigenous kennel hand, was named VNCA (Vet Nurse Council of Australia) Student Vet Nurse of the Year for 2019.

Martina moved into the role of Kennel Hand in the VMC from the CSC earlier this year as part of the nurse career path and has been undertaking a Cert IV in Veterinary Nursing. Currently, she is working towards graduating as a vet nurse in March 2020. Congratulations Martina!

Staff and students celebrate at the Vet Ball

Saturday 12 October saw staff and students alike celebrate the night away at the Hilton in Brisbane for the annual "Animalia" Vet Ball. The Master of Ceremonies, Dr Norbert Gaulton did a wonderful job at keeping the night running smoothly, complete with his stories from "back in the day," whilst the guest speaker was none other than alumnus Dr Richard Humphreys (Class of 2017) delivered a guest address with flair true to form that left everyone in stitches. Everyone was delighted to hear that one of our fourth year students, Melissa You received a \$1000 external scholarship for her essay on



'grief'. Once again, the Vet Ball committee did a fantastic job of the night.

The efforts of teaching staff and tutors were recognised with the annual Golden Speculum and Golden Dissection Kit Awards. Honourable mention to Margie McEwen who enjoyed the night (her first ever vet ball!) so much she lost her voice. It is always so good to see the SVS staff attend the night alongside their future colleagues. The award winners are:

5th years Golden Speculum

- Lisa Kidd
- Albert Sole Guitart

4th years Golden Speculum

- Shahab Ranjbar

4th years Golden Dissection Kit

- Norbert Gaulton

3rd years Golden Speculum

- Karen Jackson
- Margie McEwen

2nd years Golden Speculum

- Mike Noad

2nd years Golden Dissection Kit

- Werdi Pratiwi

1st years Golden Speculum

- Dan Schull

1st years Golden Dissection Kit

- Werdi Pratiwi



CAWE at the World Conference on Farm Animal Welfare

Representatives from the International Animal Welfare Standards Project's Australian team, based out of the UQ Centre for Animal Welfare and Ethics, headed over to Qingdao, Shandong, China on 19-20 September for the World Conference on Farm Animal Welfare.

The conference, which was primarily organised by the International Cooperation Committee of Animal Welfare (ICCAW) and sponsored by FAO and the China Association for the Promotion of International Agricultural Cooperation, had a strong focus on the development of animal welfare within China. It was well attended by representatives from industry, scientists and policy makers. Michelle Sinclair, Kris Descovich and Clive Phillips were in attendance to represent the Animal Welfare Standards Project.

Professor Phillips spoke about livestock welfare as part of the Ruminant Welfare

Session “Too darn hot! Livestock welfare in a warming world”, and also participated in a panel discussion on ruminants.

Several project collaborators from the Chinese team also attended the conference, which gave everyone a great opportunity to network and raise awareness of the project and its goals, which includes the establishment of the first Sino-Australian Animal Welfare Centre.

The numerous Chinese universities collaborating on this project will shortly begin their research, assisted by the CAWE team and scientists from around the world. Meanwhile, the CAWE team continues to build on the resources and training available to industry stakeholders across the region, with webinars commencing in 2021.



Chiara Palmieri attends GIVCS Meeting in Brazil

Chiara Palmieri recently attended the first group meeting of the Global Initiative of Veterinary Cancer Surveillance (GIVCS) in USP-Sao Paulo (Brazil) on 7-8 of October. This initiative is bringing together pathologists and oncologists from different countries (Australia, US, Switzerland, Brazil, Portugal, Spain, UK, Nigeria) who are coordinating a multi-institutional standardised approach for data capture, coding, analysis and reporting of cancers in small animals.

GIVCS was created to foster the exchange of information between cancer registries internationally in order to provide meaningful data on the occurrence and outcome of cancer for comparative and epidemiological studies, research into the cause of cancer and adoption of control strategies.



UQ VETS nurses work toward specialist qualifications

Three nurses from the Small Animal Hospital are preparing to sit specialty examinations in 2020. Jayne Shearer, Rebecca de Gier and Gary Fitzgerald are all in the process of applying to be designated Veterinary Technician Specialists (VTS). The rigorous and comprehensive certification process involves 3-5 years working in a specific discipline, CPD, submission of case logs and case reports, evidence of mastery of skills within that discipline, followed

by a qualifying examination which takes place in the US.

There are currently 18 recognised specialties with ~1200 nurses and technicians designated Veterinary Technician Specialists worldwide. Currently in Australia, there are 13 VTS (8 in ECC, 3 in SAIM, 1 in dentistry, 1 in nutrition, 3 in anaesthesia/analgesia).

Gary and Rebecca are pursuing a speciality in Clinical Practice - Exotics and Jayne in Small Animal Internal Medicine.

We wish them all the best and congratulate them on their passion, commitment and dedication to the profession.

Staffing News

Welcomes:

Dr Mainity Batista Linhares - Lecturer in Veterinary Pathology
Dr Lee Anne McMichael - Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Ella Wright - Client Relationship Manager

Expected Staff Arrivals:

Dr Ryan Leong - Small Animal Surgeon
Dr Md Asrafuzzaman RIYADH - Scientific Officer - Histology

Resignations/Departures:

Dr Katie Rhue - Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care Clinician
Dr Robert Bahr - Veterinary Radiologist

Teacher showcase



Samantha Kempster

Discipline Area/Role in SVS: Manager, Clinical Studies Centre

Qualifications: B App Sc (Grazing Animals), Diploma Animal Technology, Cert IV Vet Nursing, Cert IV Teaching & Assessing, Cert III in Laboratory Animal Care.

Samantha is best known for her outstanding contributions to teaching through her management of the Clinical Studies Centre, which contributes greatly to the clinical and practical skills development of both the veterinary and veterinary technology students. She is a supportive and patient teacher, with excellent organisational skills. Her teaching and leadership in the areas of dog and cat behaviour serve as inspiration from students and staff colleagues.

Samantha's role encompasses managing the Clinical Studies Centre, its community engagement programs, animal colonies, staff, the BVSc fourth year Clinical Practical Work Rotation, the Student Clinical Skills Hub, and is an instructor in multiple SVS courses. Samantha delivers gold standard, ethical use and clinical care for our teaching and research animals.

Under Samantha's supervision, the School is leading the way in veterinary teaching with the introduction and use of non-invasive clinical training methods powered by the School's new Student Clinical Skills Hub.

Samantha's down-to-earth and welcoming approach to her teaching is appreciated and respected by staff and students alike.

Vital statistics:

Years of teaching: 22 years with 9 years at UQ

Discipline areas: Animal behaviour and husbandry, anaesthesia and various skills including reproduction

Teaching courses: ANIM2020, VETS1025, VETS2001, VETS3043, VETS3044, VETS3070, VETS4010, VETS5028, VETS5030

Residential Schools: ANIM2020, VETS2001

Student quote: *Sam is an incredibly vital member of the vet school; her work at the CSC, and level of dedication towards students and animals alike is inspiring. Her skills as an organiser are integral to student learning and ensuring we're the best vets we possibly can be. We really appreciate her dedication. Thanks Sam!*

Upcoming events and opportunities



Kick of TropAg 2019 in style by attending the fun-filled RAID trivia night!

Sunday 10 November, 6-10pm. Break down those conference barriers by joining us for a fun-filled night of general trivia located at the beautiful Covent Garden in West End, a short walk from the TropAg conference venue. Plenty of prizes are up for grabs! Compete alongside like-minded students, post-docs, professors and industry professionals! Come on your

own or bring your friends and show off your general, and agricultural knowledge - you will be sorted into teams on the night. Cost: \$5 at door, nibbles provided and drinks are available for purchase

[More Information](#)

Third National Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Forum

This event will be held in Brisbane on 8 November 2019 at the RBWH Education & Conference Centre at Herston.

SVS is a major partner to this event, which brings together physicians, nurses, pharmacists, veterinarians, dentists, policy makers, and others, under a multidisciplinary umbrella of effective action against AMR in human and animal medicine.

On Thursday afternoon prior to this conference, there is a veterinary workshop - [Developing and Using Prescribing Guidelines: Guidelines to the Guidelines](#). As many SVS staff and students as possible are encouraged to attend in person. The seminar room for the workshop will be Zoom enabled for those that cannot make it to Herston. Any questions please contact Justine Gibson or Rowland Cobbold.

[Read more](#)



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.

[Read more](#)



Vet Ed Down Under Conference 2020

11-13 February 2020: Sharing practice growing together
The symposium is a two day event to be held 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.

[Read more](#)

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, Phone: (07) 5460 1834

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