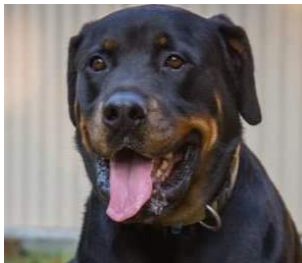




Veterinary Science Newsletter

News and events



Successful outcome in cancer treatment for dogs

[Rachel Allavena](#) and her PhD student, veterinarian Annika Oksa, have saved the life of Griffin, a Rottweiler, by enrolling him in a new immunotherapy treatment. Griffin was diagnosed with T cell lymphoma in December 2017 and given three months to live. T cell lymphoma is usually a death sentence for dogs, so Griffin is incredibly lucky to be alive. The immunotherapy treatment works by 'waking up' the dog's immune system, helping the animal's own body destroy the cancer. So far more than 170 dogs have been treated.

[Read more](#)



Allison Stewart keynote speaker at European Equine Internal Medicine Congress, Valencia Spain

Allison Stewart was a keynote speaker at the recent European Equine Internal Medicine Congress in Valencia Spain giving lectures on endocrine disorders of critically ill horses; a review of the highlights of ACVIM and an interactive equine cytology case discussion for residents. Carlos Medina-Torres was also in attendance as well as Allison's daughter (pictured) - as free childcare was provided to assist working parents.



Cats available for adoption at CSC

The Clinical Studies Centre presently has a large number of cats available for adoption for \$50. Details can be found [in the post dated 14 January](#). Anyone interested is welcome to contact the office on 5460 1868 for more information or to make an appointment to meet the cats.



Animal Welfare Standards project commences China based research

The China based research component of the UQ based Animal Welfare Standards project has now commenced.

As part of the project, Professor Clive Phillips recently visited the Inner Mongolia Agricultural University, Hohhot, to collaborate in their sheep welfare research.

A particular problem in this region is the welfare of sheep at low temperatures, at or below -25°C . The team tested their ability to maintain body temperature at these temperatures when transported in open trucks, as commonly occurs.

A large team of researchers dedicated to this project enabled the Chinese team to successfully complete three experiments on this topic in two days, including taking blood samples to measure their responses to the cold.



Drs Allison Stewart and Francois-Rene Bertin present at Global Equine Endocrinology Symposium, Germany

Allison Stewart and Francois-Rene Bertin were both invited speakers presenting research at the Global Equine Endocrinology Symposium in Gut Ising in Bavaria, Germany in January. Forty of the world's best equine endocrinology researchers were invited to present their research and participate in workshops. Allison was one of

the six conference organisers. Both Allison and Francois-Rene are panel member for the Equine Endocrinology Group and have co-authored the recent guidelines on pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction and equine metabolic syndrome respectively.

Congratulations to our 2019 Celebrating SVS Staff Award winners!

Outstanding Contribution to Research

Dr Helle Bielefeldt Ohmann

High Impact Clinical Research

Wendy Goodwin

Higher Degree Research Supervision Excellence

Joerg Henning

Outstanding Contribution to Service

Bob Doneley

Outstanding Contribution to Engagement

Trish Farry

Helen Keates Developing Teacher

Karen Jackson

Trevor Heath Teaching Excellence

Dick Wright

Outstanding Contribution by Professional Staff

Kathy Bachman

Staff achievements

Promotions (effective Jan 2020):

Wendy Goodwin, Senior Lecturer

John Alawneh, Senior Lecturer

Dan Schull, Associate Professor

Service roles:

Academic oversight of EMS – Thank you to Michael McGowan and congratulations to Steven Kopp who is now stepping into the role.

Chief Examiner – Thank you to Steven Kopp and congratulations to David McNeill who has recently stepped into that role.

Production Animal Service Head – Thank you to Brandon Fraser and congratulations to Ben Wood who will step into the role.

Staff arrivals and departures

Welcomes:

Ryan Leong, Small Animal Surgeon

Katherine Indeck, Research Assistant

Expected Staff Arrivals:

Md Asrafuzzaman RIYADH, Scientific Officer – Histology

Adam Whitelock, Small Animal Rotating Intern

Edward Di Rago, Small Animal Rotating Intern

Katherine Munce, Small Animal Rotating Intern

Stephanie Collins, Equine Intern

Departures:

Laura Bunbury-Cruickshank, Veterinarian

Teacher showcase

Dr Shahab Ranjbar DVM PhD

Lecturer in Production Animal Medicine

Shahab is best known for his role as a lecturer in production animal medicine and one of the main tutors of the 4th year vet student practical classes. Although only being with the School for a short period of time, Shahab received the Golden Speculum – Best



Lecturer Award from the students in 2019!

Shahab teaches into a range of BVSc subjects and will be teaching into the third year of the Veterinary Technology programme from 2020. He is also in discussions to assist with the National Veterinary Exam in 2020.

So, what makes Shahab a great teacher? Shahab strives to 'become the teacher he always wanted'. Forming a connection with students is really important and he goes out of his way to learn student's names. He is approachable, and takes the time to provide 1:1 help for students – both during his teaching on clinics and also through lectures and tutorials. In his lectures, Shahab strives to connect student learning to their future careers and work with an emphasis on leadership, personal development and teamwork. His lectures are filled with clinical experiences and personal anecdotes and focus on key clinical messages - 'common things happen commonly'. He is also personable and always happy to have a laugh! Through his teaching, Shahab aims to guide and mentor students to the point where he is no longer needed as that scaffold and source of support.

Teacher Showcase compiled by Dan Schull, SVS Vet Ed Network

Vital statistics:

Years of teaching: 9 years including clinical teaching whilst committed to his PhD

Discipline areas: Dairy Cattle Lameness, Cattle Medicine and Surgery

Course coordination: VETS1025

Teaching courses: VETS1025, VETS2008, VETS3070, VETS4034, VETS 4035

Clinical contribution: Clinical Contribution to PAS team and referral advice on lameness cases and herd lameness management

External teaching: VETS6310 (University of Sydney)

Student quote: *"I want more of him in the courses! He is an amazing lecturer and tutor, who makes the complex very basic, and isn't afraid to have a good laugh".*

Student testimonials:

'Dr Ranjbar is an excellent tutor and lecturer and very passionate in the field of ruminant medicine and surgery. He was always approachable and compassionate towards students and eager to teach at all times. I felt very comfortable learning under his guidance.'

'Funny, good at teaching the important things, always walked away from a lecture, practical or conversation feeling better about my future as a ruminant vet.'

'Shahab took the course by storm with his lameness lectures earlier in the year. He is very good at explaining things and is especially fun in pracs - his teaching style mixed with his friendliness make him a great teacher and colleague who I look forward to working with in the future.'

'Very engaging and interesting to listen to, and encouraged student input and discussion which allowed me to focus and maintain attention throughout the lecture.'

Upcoming events and opportunities



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

The second biennial Australasian Veterinary Educators Symposium 'Vet Ed Down Under' will be hosted by The University of Queensland, School of Veterinary Science, Gatton Campus from 11-13 February 2020. Modelled on the very successful Vet Ed Symposium in the UK/ Europe, the aim of the symposium is to promote veterinary education in the Australia and New Zealand region through sharing of innovations, ideas and best practise in teaching and learning with an emphasis on networking and community building. The symposium will be inclusive and affordable thereby providing an opportunity for delegates from all levels of teaching and learning to attend.

The main conference will include keynote speakers, interactive poster sessions, and workshops, with morning and afternoon teas and lunch provided across the two days.

Our terrific keynote speakers include:

- Associate Professor Julie Cary Diplomate ACVS/ Director Clinical Communication Program & Clinical Simulation Center, Washington State University, College of Veterinary Medicine, United States of America
- Dr Eloise Jillings Senior Lecturer/Associate Dean (Admissions & Students), Massey University, School of Veterinary Sciences, New Zealand
- Associate Professor Elizabeth Tudor Associate Dean Curriculum, The University of Melbourne, School of Veterinary Science

[Read more](#) about our keynote speakers.

There are two Post-Conference Workshops on 13 February:

- Workshop 1: Veterinary Service Delivery to Remote Indigenous Communities – Talking Practicalities and One Health
- Workshop 2: Creative teaching for veterinary clinical skills development

[Read more](#) about the post-conference workshops.

For further information please email: veteddownunder2020@uq.edu.au

[Read more](#)