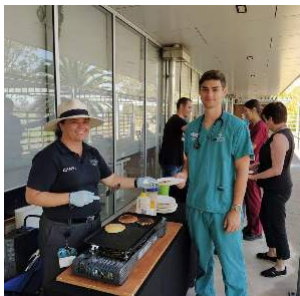




Veterinary Science Newsletter

News and events



Vet tech students celebrate their last day on clinic

Congratulations to our final year vet tech students on completing their last day on clinics with us. We celebrated their last day with a pancake breakfast hosted by the Gatton Chaplain. This is an amazing achievement and we are wishing all the students the very best as they start the next chapter in their careers.



2020 Clinical Coats Ceremony

The 2020 Clinical Coats Ceremony was held on Friday 20th November. The fourth year BVSc students mingled with SVS staff for canapes, followed by a sit down dinner in the Dining Hall. Despite not having parents or external guests due to COVID-19 restrictions, the event was a huge success and well received by the students who enjoyed the event and the opportunity to celebrate this important milestone.

Research update from the CEAL lab

This year the whales were booming! From May to November humpback whales pass



the Brisbane coast as they migrate between summer feeding in rich Antarctic waters and winter breeding grounds in northeast Australia. This population has shown some of the strongest recovery rates known after the near extinction of baleen whales in the mid-20th century.

Our research is focused on understanding what makes for a healthy whale population. To accomplish this, we are examining the relationship between hormones related to reproductive health, and energy stores obtained from measurements of blubber from drone images. These indices will serve as a baseline of what we can expect to see in a healthy population of whales. With this information, we can better understand why other populations may not be similarly thriving and rapidly recognize future threats to the health of this population.

Collecting data can be a challenge, and we are grateful for all of the help and support provided by students, volunteers, and the QYAC rangers. While out in the field we also are lucky to witness some of the spectacular behaviour that humpback whales are famous for. Whales are often seen breaching and slapping their powerful flippers or flukes on the surface of the water. Sometimes, large competitive groups of whales put on such displays as a mother shields her calf from the rambunctious behaviour. We hope that our research contributes to keeping this population healthy so people can enjoy these experiences for years to come.



Gary Fitzgerald - Veterinary Nurses Council of Australia Vet Nurse/Tech of the year

As Nurse Manager at UQ VETS, Gary oversees several sites and supervises, mentors, trains and supports approximately 50 FTE veterinary nurses and technicians. Gary has consistently performed above and beyond the standards expected of him. He never asks his nursing staff to do anything that he would not do himself, resulting in frequently checking in on staff on weekends and at night, and filling shifts when no one else is available. His calm

and considered personality is always at the fore and he brings out the best in his colleagues. Gary works tirelessly to maintain and monitor processes to ensure a high level of nursing support is provided to clinicians, students and hospital services across the Equine Specialist and Small Animals Hospitals and Production Animal Service. Congratulations Gary!

SVS wins ACEN National Award for Collaboration

The School of Veterinary Science was awarded the ACEN National Collaboration Award at the recent ACEN National Summit. The award acknowledges the collaboration and ongoing partnership between the School and the RSPCA Queensland. The Award is given to a partner organisation that is collaborating with a university to provide a sustained and significant contribution to WIL. The award was received by John Mallyon, general practitioner and clinical academic at the RSPCA. Congratulations to SVS, RSPCA, Dr Mallyon and to all the staff who contributed to the nomination (Eva King, Jodie Kowaltzke, and Daniel Schull).

[Read more](#)

SVS PEMS placement provider story - Paul Roderick

Progressive Queensland dairy farmer Paul Roderick says he is investing in a range of technologies to further improve the efficiency of the family's 350-cow operation.

And he's relying on the practical expertise and experience of UQ Gatton students.



[Read the full story on Farm Online](#)



Titanium leg gives old dog new 'leash' on life

A 3D-printed titanium bone implant is giving a senior rescue dog a new 'leash' on life, thanks to a team of vets from The University of Queensland and engineers from RMIT University.

deck.

Seymour has gone from a sick rescue dog who was 'on his last legs' to a happy pooch who enjoys sunbaking on the

[Read more](#)

Chiara Palmieri and Ricardo Soares Magalhaes speak at GIVCS annual meeting

Chiara Palmieri and Ricardo Soares Magalhaes have been recently invited to speak at the annual meeting of the Global Initiative of Veterinary Cancer Surveillance, an online event organised by the University of Porto (Portugal) on 7-8 October 2020.

GIVCS is an international group created in 2018 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.

Chiara presented the outcomes of the GIVCS work on veterinary cancer coding, as well as the status of cancer registration in companion animals in Australia. Ricardo spoke about the importance of veterinary epidemiology and spatial modelling in the analysis of cancer data. The abstracts of this meeting are [available at the GIVCS website](#).



Malcolm Jones and Chiara Palmieri speak at ICAVETS

Malcolm Jones and Chiara Palmieri were both invited speakers at the International Conference on Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine for Students (ICAVETS) 2020 organised by the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the Universitas Brawijaya on the 15th of October 2020.

Malcolm spoke about the One Health response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, while Chiara talked about environmental cancer prevention in companion animals and humans – animal sentinels of human cancer. The online Zoom session was a great success with almost 200 people joining the talks!

UQ SVS registered as ECVP training centre

UQ SVS is one of the 50 ECVF (European College of Veterinary Pathologists) registered training centres (the only one in Australia!) under the supervision of Chiara Palmieri (ECVP Diplomate) and Rachel Allavena (ACVP Diplomate). Being a qualified training program, UQ SVS can provide broadly-based theoretical and practical experience in veterinary pathology, meeting the training requirements of the ECVF Council for candidates to take the ECVF certifying examination.

As part of the online training organised by the ECVF, on the 27th of October Chiara has delivered a 2 hours webinar on “How to read and describe ultrastructural pictures”, providing a comprehensive overview on the interpretation of electron microscopy pictures of normal tissues and pathological lesions. If you want more information about the ECVF or ACVP examination and training program, please contact Chiara Palmieri c.palmieri@uq.edu.au or Rachel Allavena r.allavena@uq.edu.au.

SVS researchers feature on ABC Southern Queensland's Mornings program

On Tuesday 20 October, ABC Southern Queensland's Mornings program host [Belinda Sanders](#) visited UQ Gatton, collecting stories from the School of Veterinary Science.

Swaid Abdullah discussed his work estimating the prevalence and distribution of parasites in pet dogs (a risk not only for our dogs, but also to humans particularly children) and also studying dog owners' attitude towards such infections. He talked about how this will eventually aid in developing future prevention and control strategies for parasites in dogs and the potential transmission of infection in shared spaces.

Nick Clark also discussed his current work, building an ensemble forecasting model that can anticipate the timing and severity of tick paralysis season. The stories broadcast throughout October and early November, with Belinda hoping to come back for more stories in early 2021.

Staff achievements

Congratulations to the following SVS staff!

- Rowland Cobbold - Honorary Fellowship of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists
- Nick Clark - Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA) –first round 2021
- Frances Shapter - Faculty of Science Teaching Excellence Award
- Equine Teaching Team (Francois-Rene Bertin, Steven Zedler, Abbey Cox, Albert Sole-Guitart, Alex Young, Allison Stewart, Ben Ahern, Carlos Medina-Torres, Wendy Goodwin) - Faculty of Science Programs that Enhance Learning Award

Teacher showcase

Norbert Gaulton – Tutor, Veterinary Surgery and Medicine

What does Norbert teach?

Norbert is best known for his surgical teaching for the BVSc students. This begins in VETS1018 with the suture practicals and continues through the years with both formal tutoring within the surgical and anaesthetic practicals but also informal surgical tutoring



within the HUB and contribution to extra-curricular activities for student special interest groups including the Small Animal Medicine and Surgery SIG. He also helps to supervise the final year students on the Cherbourg Clinical Elective. In addition to his surgical roles, Norbert teaches content related to the financial management of veterinary practices as part of VETS3024, the third year business subject. With the experience of running his own veterinary practice for years, Norbert can bring some great real-world experiences and tips to his teaching.

Vital statistics:

Years of teaching at UQ: 5

Years of Teaching at TAFE QLD: 7

Discipline areas:

Surgery, anaesthetics, business/practice management, general practice

Teaching courses:

VETS1018, VETS4010, VETS3070, VETS3024, VETS5016

Clinical contribution:

Small animal surgery and anaesthesia practicals, Hub tutoring/mentoring, Cherbourg Clinical Elective

Student quote:

"The suture pracs by Norbert were great!" BVSC 4th year

"I found it particularly useful for practicing prior to prac exams in 4th yr & also practicing my suturing before surgery pracs. Norbert was also so kind & helpful this year" BVSc 4th year

What makes Norbert a great teacher?

With many years of teaching and tutoring both at TAFE and now in the School of Veterinary Science, Norbert brings a practical and student-centred approach to his teaching. He has been actively involved in a range of teaching initiatives including being a part of the Vets for Life orientation activities. A popular member of the School's teaching team, Norbert has received the student-voted teaching awards: "Golden Dissection Kit - Best Tutor" in 2017 and 2019.

Norbert was the first staff member to volunteer his time to students through the Hub and created some of our first suturing models. In 2017, Norbert ran weekly workshops for students of any year level. This resulted in a broad array of students advancing their suturing skills and preparing them for both the program and overseas surgical extra-mural activities. Student feedback highlighted Norbert's breadth and generosity of knowledge, his patience, ability to breakdown the skills and the depth of his clinical experience making the associated conversation as important as the skills taught.

Despite being one of the most experienced teaching staff in the School, Norbert is constantly seeking innovative new ways to teach and learn.

Brought to you by the SVS Vet Ed Network

Upcoming events and opportunities



Creating a viable future for Vietnamese livestock producers

Researchers from UQ as well as the Vietnam National University of Agriculture are inviting individuals who can join in interactive discussion on ruminant livestock production (goats, sheep, cattle) in Vietnam. Applicants may be from academia (including academics/RHD/postgraduate/undergraduate students), as well as business, government, not-for-profit and other sectors. The findings of this 2-day consultation will result in recommendations to enhance Vietnam's traceability systems, improve global competitiveness for producers, and provide assurance for consumers. [Find out more and view the program \(PDF, 172KB\)](#)

What: 2-day online consultation on the topic "Researching the sustainable traceability of ruminant livestock production in Vietnam"

When: 21-22 January 2021

Where: online via Zoom

Expressions of Interest (EOI) close: **Friday 11 December 2020**

Submit your EOI here: bit.ly/UQ-VNUA-livestock-2021



Introducing 'Workday' – register for a webinar to learn more

The [Human Capital Management Solution \(HCMS\) Program](#) is currently implementing Workday across UQ. Workday, a leading world-class Human Resources system, will transform the way we work in relation to our people, processes and systems.

All staff are encouraged to attend (virtually) **one** of the sessions listed below to learn more about Workday, including a sneak peek at the system. The sessions (delivered via Zoom) also cover the timeline, key change activities, and where staff can obtain support.

Once registered, you will be able to add the session to your outlook calendar by clicking the 'add to calendar' link and following the prompts.

For further information, please email the project team at hcms@uq.edu.au.

No.	Day	Time	Register link
1	Wednesday 25 November 2020	1pm – 2pm	Register here
2	Thursday 26 November 2020	10am – 11am	Register here
3	Tuesday 1 December 2020	1pm – 2pm	Register here
4	Wednesday 2 December 2020	10am – 11am	Register here
5	Thursday 3 December 2020	1pm – 2pm	Register here

Celebration of Graduates video

You may remember participating in the filming at Gatton for the 'Celebration of Graduates' video in July. If you were involved, thank you. The video was a great success, and we plan on filming something similar at Gatton for December's 'Celebration of Graduates' video.

One of the key objectives of this video is to showcase our three main campuses and the staff who make the student experience at UQ so special. To achieve this, we plan on filming another clapping scene **at the new UQ Gatton sign near N.W. Briton Administration Building from 10–10.15am on Wednesday 2 December 2020**. We would love to see as many people as possible there to support our graduates.

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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