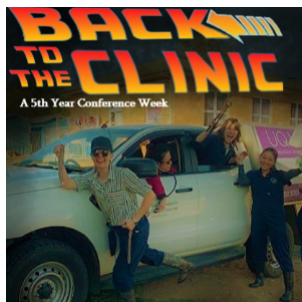




Veterinary Science Newsletter

News and events



Fifth Annual BVSc Conference Week

Now in its fifth year, the final year BVSc Student Conference Week ran from 21-25 June. The student-voted theme for 2021 was 'Back to the Clinic!'

All 114 final year students submitted abstracts and delivered a conference presentation – teaching their peers about a common 'day one' clinical case they had encountered on rotations so far, complete with key 'rules of thumb' they learned and 'take home messages' for others

when tackling similar cases after graduation. Our offshore students were zoomed in for their presentations.

In addition to the student presentations and a range of job application and transition to practice seminars, we welcomed a number of keynote speakers including our very own Dr Abbey Cox (Mixed Practice 101), Dr Katie Nash (Top 10 Emergency Consults) and adjunct Dr Kersti Seksel (Top Tips for Behaviour Consults).

Over the week, students voted for their favourite presentations with the winners announced on Friday. Prizes were donated by Boehringer-Ingelheim.

- Best Canine Presentation: Hannah Lee 'Who's afraid of the Big Bad Woof?'
- Best Feline Presentation: Lorrie Noble 'Feline Hyperthyroidism – The greater imitator'
- Best Equine Presentation: Simon Goodwin 'Angular limb deformities in foals: Straight legs is the goal!'
- Best Livestock Presentation: Nate Maisel 'Lameness of unexpected origin'

- Best Avian, Exotics and Natives Presentation: Scout Easson "Approaching the bird in the box: Don't just wing it!"

Here is a sample of feedback received:

Thank you so much for an amazing conference week. It was quite fun and very informative of the future.

Thank you for organizing such a great conference week. The talks have all been really informative and helpful with something for everybody

Thank you for a wonderful Conference Week! The presentations by my fellow peers were of high quality and the afternoon sessions were really interactive and great for next year!

I really enjoyed the friendly scientific vibe, which gives a very good opportunity to the students

Just a quick note to say thank you for including us offshore students in conference week. I really enjoyed it and it felt great to be a part of something vet-school related again.

Thanks to the staff who presented and assisted with the marking of presentations.



Joerg Henning interviewed by ABC for article about future pandemics

Joerg Henning was recently interviewed by the ABC for an article about the risk of future pandemics, [SARS, MERS, COVID-19 and Disease X? Another pandemic may still be ahead of us. But what could it be?](#)

Associate Professor Henning is part of the [Asia Pacific Consortium of Veterinary Epidemiology](#) (APCOVE) project, teaching veterinarians and animal epidemiologists in South East Asia how to stop destructive pathogens before they spread.

[Read more](#)



Michael Noad receives award for most cited paper

I received in an email out of the blue the other day from the Journal of Population Ecology congratulating me on having the most cited paper in that journal for 2020. It came complete with a certificate ("That's going straight to the pool room," I thought) and the promise of a 'cheque in the mail' for USD\$100. I was a little sceptical at first.

Yes, my co-authors, the well-known Rebecca Dunlop and a friend and colleague of ours, Eric Kniest from the University of Newcastle, and I had published a paper there in 2019. It was about the increase in the east Australian humpback whale population and the fact that the population had essentially recovered to pre-whaling levels. This good news was tempered though by some modelling we did that showed the whales are in danger of shooting past the carrying capacity of their food supply (krill in the Antarctic) and that the population may crash again as a result.

My scepticism about the award was more due to the email stating that our prize was the result of being cited 16 times. That didn't sound like much to me, and not enough really to be the most cited paper for an entire journal for a year. But then I thought about a journal's Impact Factor. This is based on how much papers from the journal in

any given year are cited (by other papers usually in other journals) in the following year. It's the total number of citations divided by the number of papers, so an average number of citations.

Now many of the journals I publish in have impact factors between 1 and 6. Remembering this is the number of times papers are cited in the first year immediate after publication only, this starts to make sense. Science and Nature are around 41 or 42 which demonstrates not just that the papers are of high quality and citable, but also that they have immediate impact. And as for the Journal of Population Ecology? It's impact factor is 1.3, so our paper with 16 citations in fact has more than 10 times the average number of citations for that journal.

Suddenly I'm feeling much better about my little email out of the blue. It's not a Nobel Prize, but I'll take it!



Refugee week – Gatton Campus

A refugee week event was held on the 23 June 2021 on the Gatton Campus. The event was organised by [Associate Professor Joerg Henning](#) and focussed on liaising and supporting the refugee community. A total of 35 refugee high school students from Iraq, Syria, South Sudan and DR Congo (with language backgrounds in kurdish kumanji, Swahili and Dinka), who are currently attending year 11 and 12 at [Harristown State High School](#) in Toowoomba, were invited to visit the rural Gatton Campus.

Dr Henning, who is the Gatton Campus representative of the [UQ Cultural Inclusion Council](#), organised an exciting day for the students with speakers from different UQ departments and sections. An information session was delivered by the [UQ College](#) about English language training and the Tertiary Preparation Program, while the [UQ Sponsored Student Unit](#) advised about UQ Refugee and Humanitarian Scholarships and the UQ admission process. [UQ Skills](#) informed the students about flexible pathways for rural and animal industry educational programs.

The refugee high school students also enjoyed a tour of the beautiful Gatton Campus with its cows, horses, fields and glass houses. They relaxed in the Gatton Chill area and played traditional music and performed traditional dances. In addition, stalls set-up for [Multicultural Australia](#) and [Access Community Services](#) provided information to UQ staff and students about the great work that these organisations are conducting with the refugee community, and traditional Afghani sweets were enjoyed by the visitors.

The event was very successful and the refugee high school community from [Harristown State High School](#) in Toowoomba is keen to establish an ongoing relationship with UQ and Gatton Campus in order to hold similar events across the year.

Dr Henning believes UQ should play a key role in supporting students from refugee backgrounds. "These students are a diverse cohort and may have been exposed to losses, persecution, displacement and a complex resettlement process. Supporting these students to improve their English should be a priority whilst supporting them in their education process and training them for future employment."



The Animal Welfare Standards Project team are developing an online course

The Animal Welfare Standards Project has adapted to changes brought about due to COVID restrictions and developed new plans for an innovative online course to deliver animal welfare knowledge to Chinese students.

The course, to be offered by UQ in conjunction with the

University of Edinburgh and the International Cooperation Committee of Animal Welfare (ICCAW), will be placed on a Chinese platform, presented entirely in Chinese and contextually focused on China.

Featuring a range of teaching styles, from online webinars to podcasts and quizzes, the course is being designed to deliver a structured education program in an engaging fashion. Students who undertake all modules will receive a certificate of completion.

While predominantly aimed at university level students with a focus on livestock, the course will be suitable for the general public and modules on companion animals and laboratory animals will be included.

The online course will provide content in line with the project's purpose of improving animal welfare during farming, slaughter and transport by developing the skills of future leaders within China.



VETS5020 students on abattoir placement at ACC

Final-year BVSc students Rebecca Lacey and Brigid Huynh-To worked alongside Department of Agriculture staff at the Cannon Hill meatworks of Australian Country Choice. The visit was part of their practical industry experience and covered issues such as animal welfare, QA and traceability. Australian Country Choice is a family-owned, 100% Australian supplier of high-quality meat products to

domestic and export markets. The Cannon Hill primary processing facility has a daily capacity of 1400 head of beef cattle. Rebecca and Brigid are pictured at their induction.

Staffing news

Welcomes:

Katherine Munce - Veterinary Clinician – Small Animal

Katherine Nash - Small Emergency & Critical Care

Vicki Ratahi - Animal Attendant

Kiara Marsh - Trainee Animal Attendant

Prof Alan Tilbrook - 0.3 SVS Animal Welfare (1 June 2021)

Expected Arrivals:

Viviana Gonzalez Astudillo - Lecturer/Snr Lecturer in Veterinary Pathology

Jessica Wise - Veterinary Clinician – Equine Internal Medicine

Staff Achievements

- 2020 Higher Education Academy Senior Fellows: Joerg Henning
- Brian Bynon – 35 years of service (commenced February 1986)
- Mick Cobbin – 25 years of service (commenced February 1996)

Research news

Successful applications UQ Research Stimulus fellowship:

Stream 1 (postdoc retention): Kris Descovich (supervisor: Chiara Palmieri)

Stream 3 (UQ graduate – Job ready):

- Suman Gupta (Supervisor: Joerg Henning)

- Tatiana Proboste (Supervisor: Ricardo Soares Magalhaes)



Arrival of Winter Indiana McNally

Gemma, Practice Coordinator at Dayboro, and Simon welcomed Winter Indiana McNally to the family on 8th May at 4kgs. Congratulations to Gemma and Simon and warmest of welcomes to beautiful baby Winter!

Teacher showcase



Rachel O'Donnell and Rebecca Hulett Undergraduate Administration

Good teaching is scaffolded and supported by excellence in administrative and technical support! In this showcase, we will illuminate and celebrate the outstanding behind-the-scenes work of the Undergraduate Administrative Team, Rebecca and Rachel. We plan to showcase the work of other members of the administrative team in upcoming newsletters.

In 2020, Bec and Rachel went to tremendous lengths to support SVS staff (academics and professional) and students in what has been one of the most challenging times faced by the School. When COVID-19 started they packed up their workstations and started working from home. They continued to provide excellent service to staff and students communicating via phone, email and zoom chat until they could come back to campus and add face to face chats as well. Bec and Rachel supported the move to online learning and assessment – this involved a lot of discussion with academics, numerous ECP changes and many emails to the faculty explaining yet another change to SVS assessment tasks. Somehow, they were able to move all of our assessment online in semester 1 2020, and we were one of the few schools with no major exam issues. During semester 2 2020, not only did they organise Gatton based assessments, they created many online assessments, and for our international students they have worked out exam schedules for time zones, created online assessments and helped with zoom invigilation.

In a 'normal' year, Bec and Rachel are there to assist academics and students alike, providing governance and advice. They coordinate the production of ECPs to ensure they are available and accessible, and they check and correct them as needed. They assist with exam scheduling (central, zoom and school), formatting, invigilating, grade upload, examiners meetings, approval of def exams and resists etc. They also assist in program reviews – gathering data recording minutes and facilitating communication as well as just general governance – adding new courses, discontinuing courses, courses changing names etc.

This quote from an academic colleague, sums up the impact of their help and support:

'Personally, I can't thank them enough – they have always been there for me, on zoom chat, phone, email and in person to answer ALL my questions. They have been amazing to work with and have made me really look forward to whatever 2021 brings – I have this team to help!'

Upcoming events and opportunities



2021 BVSc Halfway Ball

14th of August, 2021, 6:30pm to 11:30pm

This is our year to celebrate the Halfway Point in our veterinary studies! Please join us for a night of celebration.

Professor Mal will be our Master of Ceremonies, and it will be at a different location this year! Victoria Golf Course in Herston (Brisbane).

Link for Halfway Ball Tickets:

<https://events.humanitix.com/2021-halfway-ball>

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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