



# Veterinary Science Newsletter

## News and events



### Mind over matter: veterinary science 'warrior' realises her dream

A devastating car crash that left her with brain and spinal injuries wasn't enough to deter University of Queensland student Anjali Krishnaa Warriar from her lifelong ambition.

The aptly-named veterinary science graduand knew from an early age that she wanted to be a vet and follow in the footsteps of a treasured family friend, a man she called 'uncle'.

But on the last day of an internship in New Zealand in 2016, Ms Warriar was critically injured in a crash in a remote area near Queenstown, forcing her to put her studies on hold for two years.

"I'm so grateful that I always knew that I wanted to be a vet, because after my accident, I knew my ambitions and it was so much easier to work towards that goal," Ms Warriar said.

[Read more](#)

### BVSc Graduation Dinner

On Saturday 11th of December, fifth year BVSc students celebrated their achievements the only way a uni student knows how: with lots of food, surrounded by friends, and copious amounts of alcohol. The night was made even more special with the numerous clinicians that attended to help up celebrate; we cannot thank you enough for your unwavering support. After a long night, we tucked ourselves into bed and mentally prepared for the next day of celebrating.



## SVS team attend conference at Australia Zoo

On Sunday November 7th, members of our SVS team attended the Wildlife Disease Association Queensland section mini-conference at Australia Zoo. It was a terrific opportunity to present our work in a face to face setting and catch up with some of the other Queensland members of the Wildlife Disease Association. Those that attended (in photo) are Brent Jones, Lee McMichael, Charlotte Langhorne, Lyndal Hulse, Tatiana Proboste, Jenny Seddon and Viviana Gonsalves, and also Mainity Batista Linhares (missing from the photo). Presentations included, *The Threats to the Endangered Spectacled Flying Fox* (Lee McMichael), *Bandicoots and Zoonoses* (Charlotte Langhorne), *Genetic structure of the Paralysis Tick Across an Urban Matrix* (Tatiana Proboste), *The Benefits of Contract-based Pathology Service* (Mainity Batista Linhares), *Chlamydia Pecorum Infection Affects Semen Quality and Exacerbates Testicular Pathology in the Koala* (Lyndal Hulse) and *Point-of-care Microbiome Therapy in Koalas During Antimicrobial Treatment for Chlamydia* (Jenny Seddon).



## Celebrating SVS Staff@Christmas Awards

The 2021 staff awards were presented at the Christmas lunch on Friday 10th December. Congratulations to our winners! (Photo: Courtney Stewart and Lyn Knott)

- Helen Keates Developing Teacher Award: Albert Sole Guitart
- Trevor Heath Teaching Excellence Award: Steve Zedler
- Lyn Knott Teaching Foundations Award: Courtney Stewart
- Award for High Impact Clinical Research: Erika Meler
- Award for Outstanding Contribution to Research: Chiara Palmieri
- HDR Supervision Excellence Award: Wendy Goodwin
- Outstanding Contribution to Service: Justine Gibson
- Outstanding Contribution to Engagement: Rod Verrall
- Outstanding Contribution by Professional Staff: Sam Kempster
- Outstanding Contribution by Clinical Professional Staff: Vit Chakitdee
- Award for Equity Diversity and Inclusion Excellence: Anne Covill



## Cherbourg visiting vets 2021

The annual Cherbourg Visiting Vet programme, now in its sixth year, was delivered from 18 October – 12 November 2021. As always, the programme was delivered in partnership with the Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, Amanda Hutchings from the Darling Downs Public Health Unit, Bonny Cumming from Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities (AMRRIC), and with the generous support of Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health, Royal Canin and a private UQ donor. Vet services provided during the program included general health checks, grooming, parasite testing, desexing, microchipping, vaccination (for desexed

animals) and parasite treatment. The vet team from UQ for the 2021 program consisted of seven staff members (Dan Schull, Greg Simmons, Dani Hindmarsh, Amy Cox, Norbert Goulton, Bianca Galletly and Fran Shapter) and five final year veterinary students (Hannah Lee, Bobo Yu, Maddie Wallace, Shauna Quinn and Suzi Scott). The team was fully vaccinated for COVID in preparation for the visit. We once again received great feedback from the community with the programme fully booked and many repeat clients. The programme concluded with a 'thank you' morning tea with the Mayor of Cherbourg.

Photo: *Members of the team on day one of the programme*



### Rachel Allavena receives citation for outstanding contributions to student learning

Congratulations to Rachel Allavena for receiving a citation for innovative and technology-based approaches to curriculum and technical skills training in the veterinary disciplines fostering animal welfare in partnership with student-centred teaching and assessment. Rachel would like to thank Paul Mills and Frances Shapter for their mentorship and support in her application



### Available for adoption

Can you help these dogs find a new home for Christmas?

#### Emerald - Medium female cross breed dog

Emerald is the brindle dog in the photo. She is a clever little girl (25.5 kg) and she knows some pretty cool tricks. She has been teaching students how to use a clicker and do fancy training.

#### Sarina - Medium female cross breed dog

Sarina is the spotty dog in the photo. A bright, bold dog is our Sarina. At about 33 kg, she's just a medium dog with long legs. Sarina shares her space with another female dog, Emerald (so if you're after two girls, they're right here, waiting) and is dog-friendly with the right introduction.

#### Miss Potts - Medium female staffordshire bull terrier mix dog

Miss Potts loves people - she is affectionate, trainable and even walks on-leash. Bonus, if you are a fan of fluffy dogs, Miss Potts feels like velvet!

## Teacher showcase



### Chiara Palmieri, A/Prof

DVM PhD DECVP (Diplomate, European College of Veterinary Pathologists)

Chiara is an Associate Professor in the SVS, Veterinary Pathologist and also the Director of Research. To her students, Chiara is probably best known for her role as a pathologist and lecturer in pathology. She teaches into both the Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Veterinary Technology and has also been involved with teaching into both the DVClinSc and the Master in Veterinary Science.

Chiara's approach to teaching is very much appreciated by the students and she has won the student-voted Golden Speculum for the BVSc II cohort for two years running (2020 and 2021).

So, what makes Chiara a great teacher? In her own words, Chiara really enjoys teaching and cites enthusiasm for the content (that can otherwise be relatively dry) as a critical factor in connecting to her students and engaging with them.

Student feedback highlights her animated and engaging lecture style – with Chiara moving around the room, roving the audience with a microphone, running polls, making the lectures fun, and connecting back to personal experiences. Students especially enjoy her big Italian personality and gestures etc to help punctuate key points and engage everyone in clinical discussions.

Chiara likens her teaching approach to 'coaching' rather than the traditional teacher just imparting knowledge for the students to absorb. With so much content to cover, she covers only key 'must know' concepts and ideas and equips students with the skills to follow up/ explore further if interested. Chiara also makes a concerted effort to frame her lectures and practicals around clinical cases and clinical based scenarios – hence firmly connecting pathology with the clinical setting. The use of digital histopathology to bring slides to life is also much appreciated by pupils.

#### **Vital statistics:**

##### **Years of teaching:**

10 years here in the SVS and 7 years in Italy prior to this

##### **Discipline areas:**

Pathology and research oversight within the SVS

##### **Course coordination:**

VETS2007, previously several Master of Veterinary Science subjects also (VETS7711, VETS7704, VETS7608)

##### **Teaching courses:**

VETS2007, VETS5020, VETS3040, VETS2001, MOLI7110

##### **Current RHD students:**

Current: 1 PhD student and 1 DVClinSc student as principal advisor, 4 PhD students as co-advisor

Two PhD students completed in 2021 (as a principal advisor), one PhD and two DVClinSc students completed in 2021 (as a co-advisor)

##### **Clinical contribution:**

Contributions to the SVS pathology service

##### **External Teaching:**

3 in 1 visiting programme University of Bravijaya Indonesia - online lectures in veterinary pathology for undergraduate students

Webinars for residents in veterinary pathology organised by ECVF and Davis-Thompson Foundation – avian and prostate pathology, electron microscopy etc

##### **Student quote:**

*Chiara is a fantastic teacher. I love the fact that she takes the time to explain everything. She doesn't try to rush anything. Her way of explaining stuff makes a lot of sense and I love having her as a lecturer.*

Here are some student testimonials to highlight Chiara's personal impacts for students:



- Chiara organises her presentations in a very engaging and informative way, with time for questions and helps us to reflect well on the information for ourselves. Always willing to help answer questions, and interacts well with students.
- Chiara is very approachable and has structured her lectures in a really excellent way, helping to consolidate learning and keep us all interested. I really liked having her as a lecturer.
- Chiara was always full of energy which helped keep you engaged when learning.
- Chiara was very engaging and helpful this semester. She was very ready to support us and answer any questions that we had. I really appreciate when the lecturers make it clear that the line of communication is open and we were welcome to email her at any point. This was very comforting to know that we have the support of lecturers especially in this time with COVID where I feel a bit removed from uni.

The 'Teacher Showcase' initiative celebrates the many outstanding grassroots teachers in the school. Please contact Dan Schull ([d.schull@uq.edu.au](mailto:d.schull@uq.edu.au)) to nominate a colleague!

## Upcoming events and opportunities



### 2022 Equine Practitioners Conference

1-2 February 2022, Gatton Campus

UQ VETS is pleased to announce the 2022 Equine Practitioners Conference, to be held on Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2 February 2022. The conference will include ten 30 minute lectures on current topics in equine practice and four 90 minute hands on practical sessions. The event will be limited to 60 participants, so please [register online](#) to reserve

your place.

Please see the [conference brochure](#) for further details about the event. The registration costs and CPD points can be found on page 4 of the brochure.

#### Conference Topics

- Investigating the neurological horse
- Beginner's guide to ultrasound of the stifle
- Applying a cast
- Diagnosis of cervical spine fractures and stenosis
- Surgical repair of cervical spine fractures and stenosis
- Testicles and ovaries, when and how to remove them
- What's new with Queensland Itch? (Insect Bite Hypersensitivity, IBH)
- You have a cast on your patient, what next?
- Care and management of the down horse
- The Hendra exclusion is negative! Other causes of meningoencephalitis

## 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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