



# Veterinary Science Newsletter

## News and events



### New learning experience for fifth year BVSc students

As part of a new initiative for 2022, the final year BVSc cohort are spending three days working at the Animal Management Centre's desexing clinic in the city of Logan. This brief yet immersive experience enables students to participate in the fast-paced world of animal rescue and rehabilitation and to gain valuable surgery skills and experience. Students are tested in their ability to work fast, maintain composure and make decisions under pressure, while still under the watchful eye of their supervisor. The average day is spent preparing for two surgical procedures (either a spay and a castrate or one of each), drawing up medication and discussing the surgical plan. The students then go through the process of anaesthetising, preparing and performing the surgery. At the end of the day the mentor and the students are able to share a meal and discuss the day.

Below are some examples of the positive feedback received from students:

"I can't believe how much I learnt and how much I improved in my clinical skills just from the 3 days at Logan! Please make Logan a whole week for future cohorts, it is simply such an incredible learning experience!"

"I found the Logan placement very valuable for the development of my surgical skills. It was great to be able to practise multiple surgeries and anaesthesia with supervision."

"I want to thank all of the staff at Logan and the vets who made this experience possible. I think it is an incredible learning opportunity and

really helps us better our handling and surgical skills. I would love to return to Logan and volunteer next year as a new grad."



### Equine Hospital helps flood victim Whinny

Whinny, a beautiful 11-year-old Thoroughbred mare, was trapped during the northern NSW floods, and became injured in a fence. She presented to UQ with lacerations on her forelimbs, severe lameness, especially on her front leg, pneumonia, a bacterial skin infection, and very underweight.

Initially both Whinny's forelimbs were cleaned and bandaged. Intravenous regional limb perfusions with antibiotics were performed on her left front leg for several days to control the infection. Her abscesses were dug out through her sole to allow drainage and help relieve her of pain.

During her stay at UQ, Whinny had good days and bad days and her progress has been somewhat of a rollercoaster. Some weeks her abscesses would stop draining pus, and other weeks they would begin to drain and cause her more pain. Luckily Whinny received the royal treatment at UQ VETS. She had a very soft rubber stall with lots of soft bedding to lie in, and her feet were always bandaged to keep them clean and protected. She has also been getting pain relief twice a day to make her more comfortable.

Whinny was severely underweight when she arrived, so she was fed four times a day by the lovely barn staff. She managed to put on over 50kg while at UQ! Everyone loves her and she has been the perfect patient. She certainly has a knack for rolling around in her soft bedding and always needing a bath! And nothing can get in the way of Whinny and her breakfast so don't even try.



### Harmony Day bigger and better this year

This year the Harmony Day International Food Festival was a Gatton campus wide event with around 260 international students attending. The event was organised by Joerg Henning, the SVS Academic International Student Mentor, with help from the Gatton Students Services and Gatton Chaplaincy. Many dishes were prepared or cooked by our international students, including Asian Hotpot, Indian, Korean, African and Bangladeshi food. The students appreciated the opportunity to get together and enjoyed the

variety of foods.

[Read more](#)



### SVS team attends the Australasian Bat Society Conference

In April part of the SVS team of bat health researchers attended the Australasian Bat Society Conference hosted by QUT in Brisbane. Jennifer Sullivan presented her honours research examining herpesviruses in Australian flying foxes, for which she won the student award, and the quote of the day "No one has ever been so happy to receive a positive herpesvirus result!". Alison Hoeger went all out and gave two presentations on her Australian Bat

Lyssavirus doctoral research. Dr Lee McMichael presented concepts surrounding the development of a novel biomedical bat model for human cleft palate research. We brought into the fold aspiring PhD candidate Jessica Mitchell fresh out of her Masters research project investigating asynchronous birthing patterns in Australian flying foxes.

(Pictured from left: Jennifer Sullivan, Alison Hoeger, Lee McMichael and Jessica Mitchell)

## New beginnings: the librarian team

We're moving into the final six months of the 18 months transition of the liaison librarian team to the new librarian model. This was agreed in March 2021 after feedback from our academic colleagues, and discussions with the team and Unions.

Our librarians provide an expansive range of valuable services to the UQ community. As the University grows and changes over time and your appetite for digital and specialist services has grown, we are adapting to ensure we meet your needs. This will allow us to continue to provide you with the discipline-specific support and services you value and provide more scope to explore new partnerships and opportunities with you.

You will no doubt have started to see some changes and we will keep you updated with more as we go.

The first is a move to a Faculty Team model. This means:

- There will be a team of librarians to support Faculties and Institutes with your research, teaching and learning needs
- You can contact the team at [librarians@library.uq.edu.au](mailto:librarians@library.uq.edu.au)

By September we expect to have recruited our new Outreach Librarians.

Our Senior Managers and Outreach Librarians will be based in one of three Faculty groupings. Their role will be to proactively engage with Faculties and Institutes to understand your strategic priorities and emerging needs, and ensure our services are well aligned. Each Faculty grouping will also include Learning and Research Librarians who, together with the Outreach Librarians, will deliver Library services, respond to enquiries, and connect you to other library services as needed. We know you value connecting with people you trust, and you will be able to build connections with the team who support you.

We are also working on a new model for our information and digital capability development support for students and will share our new approach soon to gather your feedback before finalising.

We are very much looking forward to this new way of working that will provide each of us with new opportunities.



## 2022 UQVSA Committee

Introducing the UQ Vet Students Association committee for 2022. Pictured from left to right:

Katie de Jong - Social Media Officer  
Ambre Latrasse - Secretary  
Bettina Amarandos - Treasurer  
Nira Rasanathan - President  
Kaitlyn Hele - Vice-President

## Staffing News

### Welcomes:

Kehinde Owalabi - Research Development Officer  
Cate Khursandi - Small Animal Surgeon

### Expected Arrivals

Mohanathas Gobikrushanth - Lecturer in Production Animal Medicine

**Departures:**

Sarah Purcell - Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care Clinician

Kayla Lawson - Project Officer Animal Welfare

## Upcoming events and opportunities

### One Health Down Under Symposium

12-13 September, Brisbane

The Queensland Alliance of One Health Sciences is hosting a symposium 'One Health Down Under' on the 12-13 September 2022 in Brisbane.

We are currently calling for abstracts under 5 key themes:

1. The human notifiable zoonotic disease response
2. Foodborne Risks
3. Antimicrobial resistance and the environment
4. Comparative environmental oncology
5. Wildlife-environment interface and emerging infectious diseases

Submission of abstracts is due by the 8 June 2022.

[More info](#)

## 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

You received this email because The University of Queensland records you as current SVS staff.