#### September 2023



#### **Veterinary Science**



## **Veterinary Science Newsletter**

### News and updates



### SVS Inaugural picnic a success

The launch event for the "Summer/ Winter SVS picnic" on 3 August was a huge success. It is estimated that over 300 people attended.

Thank you to Fran Shapter for initiating and organising the event, to everyone who contributed approvals, ideas, time, equipment, encouragement, and music, and to those of you who were able to come along and bring your families. Every part of SVS was represented, and our youngest

guest was just a few months old.

The student highlight was definitely Peer Support Network (PSN) and UQ Veterinary Students' Association (UQVSA) launching their Buddy Program, to pair students who are at different stages of their careers. This was a resounding success with more than 120 new friendships formed and fantastic feedback regarding the impact of this program.

## Fifth year BVSc student Chantal Worsfold speaks at the Bridgeman Downs Probus Club

On Monday the 28 August, I had the opportunity to present to the Bridgeman Downs Probus Club about the role of dogs in society. The focus of the presentation was to highlight the relationship between humans and dogs, to outline the historical



development of a dog's role in society beginning from the time of their domestication in human nomadic society all the way to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We looked at the diverse jobs dogs can have, including their use as assistance, emotional support and service animals. Included in the presentation were some heart-warming stories of real dogs who are helping people. I also had the chance to share my vision for animal-assisted therapy, helping abuse and domestic violence survivors.



# Bob Doneley visits Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston

While in Boston recently (speaking at the 2023 ExoticsCon conference), Bob Doneley took the opportunity to visit the Angell Animal Medical Center.

The Angell Animal Medical Center Boston provides a range of health care services. It specialises in the areas of cardiology, dermatology, neurology, oncology, pain

medicine, and avian and exotic pet medicine. It is co-located with the Massachusetts SPCA, the second-oldest humane society in the USA. Together, they provide direct care to thousands of homeless, injured, and abused animals each year, and provide animal adoption, a veterinary hospital, advocacy, and humane law enforcement.

Interestingly, although the two organisations are linked and share premises, they operate separately and independently. The Angell Animal Medical Center does take in some cases for the MSPCA, but the two groups offer different services.

As of 2012, the MSPCA-Angell operates three Animal Care and Adoption Centers: Boston, Nevins Farm and Equine Center (Methuen), and Cape Cod. It also operates Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston and, since 2014, MSPCA-Angell West in Waltham, both 24/7 emergency facilities. Together these facilities employ nearly 80 fulltime veterinarians including board-certified specialists in fields such as 24/7 emergency and critical care, avian and exotic medicine, anaesthesiology, behaviour, cardiology, dentistry, dermatology, diagnostic imaging and nuclear medicine, internal medicine, I-131 treatment for hyperthyroid cats, neurology, nutrition, oncology, ophthalmology, pain medicine, pathology, surgery, and preventative medicine.

Each year, more than 50,000 animals receive routine, emergency, and specialty care at the MSPCA-Angell's premier veterinary hospital, Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston.

The MSPCA-Angell Animal Medical Center model is an interesting concept, something of great interest for future years for the SVS.



# New umbrellas and lounges for SVS staff break areas

New umbrellas have recently been installed on the tables outside the Vet Science Building to provide shade and to encourage staff to use the space for breaks and social activities. In particular it is hoped staff will participate in the School Informali-tea which is held there every Monday at 10am. New leather lounges have also been installed on level three with cushions and a coffee table to encourage staff to use the area for breaks. These initiatives were proposed by the School Equity and Diversity Committee in order to increase staff wellbeing.



#### FEAST students learn about parasites

High school students from the Lockyer region, and from throughout Queensland and northern New South Wales, descended on The University of Queensland's (UQ) Gatton campus from Sunday 25 June to Wednesday 28 June to participate in the annual FEAST program.

The Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science and Technology (FEAST) program provides Year 11 and 12

students with a taste of university life and careers in the agriculture, animal, food and environment sectors.

Dr Swaid Abdullah along with Rochelle Price ran a one-hour parasitology session with the students. They looked at different parasites of pets and farm animals. During the session all the students were inquisitive and were very keen to look at various parasite specimens and posters. The students were informed about various parasitic diseases and their prevention. Dr Abdullah also talked with the students about the One Health significance of zoonotic parasites and how they can keep their pets, family, and themselves safe from parasitic infections. The session was very well received, and Swaid is confident that the students left the lab knowing a bit more about parasites.

### **Recent ANZCVS examination success**

Several of our DVClinSc candidates recently underwent their membership examinations for the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (ANZCVS). We are very proud to congratulate the following residents on their successful results and for gaining membership to the College in their respective disciplines.

- Brodie Argue: Veterinary Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation (Equine)
- Annabelle Trainer: Veterinary Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation (Equine)
- Adam Whitelock: Emergency and Critical Care
- Shaun Pratt: Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia

## Upcoming events and opportunities

## UQ Research Commercialisation Workshop

24-25 October 2023

The Research Commercialisation Workshop's program is tailor-made for the academic and research staff and research higher degree students of UQ, designed to inform, encourage and inspire those interested in creating impact through the commercialisation of their research. With a mix of small group activities and presentations from industry leaders and fellow researchers, the UQ Research Commercialisation Workshop will guide you along the tech transfer journey, outlining how your individual research project could be commercialised to create change.

#### Vet Tech Third Year Dinner

SVS staff are invited to attend the Vet Tech Third Year Dinner to celebrate the 2023 graduates.

**Date:** Saturday 18 November **Time:** 6:30-10:30pm **Location:** Rydges Southbank

Purchase your ticket - Third Year Vet Tech Dinner

#### Graduation Dinner - BVSc 2023

All SVS staff are invited to attend the BVSc Graduation Dinner

Date: Saturday 9 December Time: 7pm until late Location: Victoria Park, Grand Ball Room

Purchase your ticket - BVSc Graduation Dinner

### 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)

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