



## Veterinary Science Newsletter

### News and updates

#### Bridge to Brisbane 2024 - UQ Vets of Tomorrow

Placements are vital to student learning and to their preparation for rewarding careers in veterinary practice. Sadly, financial pressures sometimes stand in the way of students getting the most from their placement experience.

Giving to support students in placement means removing financial barriers so that tomorrow's veterinarians can focus on their studies, their learning and on one day giving back to the communities they will live and practice in.

Join us at Bridge to Brisbane on 8 September. With your help, students will worry less about making ends meet, feel free to explore both city and country pathways and, in the end, become the very best vets that they can be.

Entries for Bridge to Brisbane are now open and we hope you'll consider lacing up your runners to support UQ in the race.

Join our Team UQ Vets of Tomorrow and support students and researchers across our campuses [via this link](#).

If you are unable to participate, you can still support our teams by [making a donation](#).

Enquiries: [sci.advancement@uq.edu.au](mailto:sci.advancement@uq.edu.au)



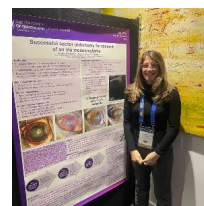
#### SVS Work and Wellness Day

The annual SVS Work and Wellness day was held on Thursday 11 July at the Plainland Hotel. Behaviour expert [Anthony Laye](#) was keynote speaker and MC. Anthony shared tips for building rapport and communicating with influence, and he wowed the audience with his mentalist demonstrations. In addition, Susan Frost ran a session on dare to lead conversations, UQ BVSc graduate Heidi Gray spoke about employee voice and leader responsiveness, and Rochelle Price lead a grumpy cat painting activity. Thanks to Rebekah Scotney and the EDI Committee for organising this event. (Photo: Admin staff pose with their cat artwork).



#### Equine Veterinarians of Australia Bain Fallon Conference

Allison Stewart was keynote speaker at the recent Bain Fallon conference in the Hunter Valley. Allison is Chair of the Australasian Equine Endocrinology Group and presented on the new guideline on diagnosis and treatment of PPID, EMS and ID. Ben Ahern also presented an update on Hendra in house testing.



UQ Vets was well represented at the event thanks to the many participants and prize winners:

Sharon Jeong: **Winner ANZCVS Best research abstract presented by a resident**–  
"Laser fenestration of the dorsal pharyngeal recess is not a good treatment option for experimentally induced dorsal nasopharyngeal collapse in horses."

Brodie Argue: **Winner ANZCVS Best research abstract presented by an academic** – "Which radiographic lesions of Thoroughbred yearlings fore fetlock influence racing performance".

Evie Hodgson: "A novel placement method of a calibration-free pH capsule for measuring intragastric pH wirelessly in horses". (pictured)

Xueli Wang: "Decline of Maternal Antibody and Natural Flavivirus Infection in Foals".

Muhummad Shahid (PhD) "Cytokine priming leads to anti-inflammatory profile of horse skeletal muscle derived mesenchymal stem cells".

Allison Stewart: **Winner Research Based Poster Prize** "Maternal antibody and response to vaccination against Hendra virus in foals".

Sharon Jeong: **Winner EVA Clinical Case based poster prize** – "Total ear canal ablation (TECA) surgery in a horse."

Evie Hodgson: "Successful sector iridectomy for removal of an iris melanocytoma."

Abbey Cox: "Analysis of Scoring Systems for the Diagnosis of Insect Bite Hypersensitivity (IBH) in Horses."

Marthe Thirouin: "Severe Rhodococcus equi typhlocolitis in a 11-week-old Australian Stockhorse foal".

Xueli Wang: "Successful correction of hyperkalaemia with terbutaline sulfate in a foal".

### FEAST participants experience the Clinical Skills Hub

FEAST high school students engaged in workshops in the Clinical Skills Hub again this year. Thank you to Fran Shapter and student ambassadors Hannah, Nelson, and Alvin for facilitating this activity. The participants left really positive feedback:



"I loved gaining an insight into what it would be like to study at UQ, and all the staff were incredibly happy to answer any questions regarding studies, UQ, and general uni life. I loved the animal anatomy and the hub workshops."

"I loved getting to experience some of the activities (especially The Hub) but being in a space with so many like-minded students with as much passion (and even more so) than me"

"I enjoyed the animal anatomy session and the session in The Hub the most. I also loved how nice and friendly the leaders and staff at UQ are, everyone was very welcoming including all the students."

### Congratulations to Faculty 3MT Competition winner Genevieve Williams

Congratulations to Genevieve Williams and the other winners of the Faculty 3MT Final for 2024.

Faculty winner: Genevieve Williams (SVS)  
Runner-up: Daniela Parra Encalada (SENV)  
People's choice: Georgina McCallum (SCMB)



Genevieve will now progress to the UQ Final which will be held on Wednesday 2 October and Georgina will progress to the UQ Wildcard competition on the 25 September, where the winner will also progress to the UQ Final.

### Professor Joerg Henning's research featured in Science News

Joerg Henning has recently featured in Science News for two research projects.

The first is a University of Queensland-led project, funded by the Queensland Government's [Community Sustainability Actions Grant](#) program, that will develop the world's first test kit to measure stress levels of koalas via their droppings.

The project, led by Joerg in collaboration with researchers from the University of Veterinary Medicine (Vienna) and CQ University, will build on previous research to help improve koala health. (<https://science.uq.edu.au/article/2024/07/new-funding-boost-development-koala-stress-test-kit>)



Professor Henning is also part of the [Asia Pacific Consortium of Veterinary Epidemiology \(APCOVE\)](#) project, which will provide applied field training and eLearning opportunities to boost veterinary epidemiology and One Health capacity in eight countries across the region. The University of Queensland has received about \$500,000 as part of the second phase of the project, with [Professor Joerg Henning](#) leading simulation exercises of animal disease outbreaks and field research projects in Cambodia, Laos, Papua New Guinea and

## SVS Anatomic Pathology team host world-class scholars

The UQ SVS Anatomic Pathology team hosted multiple world-class scholars during May and June. The first visitor was Professor Paul Canfield (University of Sydney) who delivered a very entertaining lecture focused on bone marrow histopathology as well as spending some scope time with our residents reviewing archived cytology cases. The second visitor was Professor Paco Uzal (University of California, Davis), who also spent some serious scope time with our residents and HDR students discussing gastrointestinal and neuropathology cases.



The Anatomic Pathology team also attended the Australian Animal Pathology Standards Program (AAPSP) 2024 roadshow focused on Toxicology, delivered by Dr. David Dorman (NC State University) at Biosecurity QLD.

Photo: Professor Paul Canfield poses with members of the SVS Anatomic Pathology team.

## NSW Parliamentary Inquiry - Veterinary Workforce Shortages

On Friday 28 June the NSW Parliamentary inquiry released its report on veterinary workforce shortages. The report emphasises the need for veterinary technologist qualifications to be formally recognised and regulated to enhance their role within the veterinary workforce in New South Wales. This signifies recognition at Government level of their valuable contribution to the veterinary workforce and also marks a significant step toward nationwide acknowledgment and acceptance of their credentials.

[Read more](#)

## Animal Welfare Toolbox is Live!

[animal-toolbox.org](https://animal-toolbox.org)

A new website, *The Animal Welfare Toolbox*, has just been launched from the School of Veterinary Science. This innovative platform was developed by a group of UQ's academic researchers in the Animal Welfare Standards Project (AWSP); Dr Kris Descovich, Prof Alan Tilbrook, Dr Kate Henning and Dr Alex Jiang. AWSP has produced a world leading resource that is freely accessible and promotes international collaboration and engagement.



Since 2017, AWSP has focused on capacity development in animal welfare science in China, with support from Open Philanthropy. AWSP began long term collaborations with 5 top agricultural universities in China, focusing on high impact research and training opportunities in animal welfare science for academics and industry stakeholders.

The Animal Welfare Toolbox has informative and engaging resources backed by current animal welfare science and produced by international experts in this field. These resources are useful for students and academics for increasing understanding of how applying animal welfare science benefits animals, producers, industries, and communities. The resources can be downloaded and used in relevant lectures and tutorials.

*"Everyone who works with animals should have a good understanding of animal welfare science. The Animal Welfare Toolbox is an accessible, scientific resource where users can learn the key principles in an engaging way!"* Dr Kris Descovich.

The toolbox covers animal welfare concepts, methods of assessment, and practical applications of this knowledge. Tools have been produced by animal welfare experts from around the globe and are all evidence-based, peer-reviewed, and curated, making the Animal Welfare Toolbox a trustworthy, open access resource designed to maximise engagement for teaching and learning.

The website and all the educational tools and resources are available in English and Mandarin Chinese with the aim of promoting animal welfare science and its benefits around the globe, including to the world's largest producer of animal products. In an additional project accessed through the toolbox website, AWSP and The University of Queensland collaborated with The University of Edinburgh to produce a free and popular online course for Mandarin speakers.

*"With the contribution and shared knowledge from global experts, we aim to build a one-stop resource portal for animal industry professionals, researchers, and pet owners who want to learn more about animal welfare."* Dr. Alex Jiang.

The Animal Welfare Toolbox is expanding and open for submissions. If you have an idea for an engaging animal welfare resource and would like to collaborate, email [k.descovich1@uq.edu.au](mailto:k.descovich1@uq.edu.au)

The Toolbox is a fantastic outreach opportunity for scientists to share their expertise with a wide audience in a fun and creative way! Follow this [link](https://animal-toolbox.org/toolbox-contributors/) to see all contributors to the toolbox. (<https://animal-toolbox.org/toolbox-contributors/>)

Please share the website with your students and colleagues.

Learn more about the Animal Welfare Toolbox [here](https://animal-toolbox.org/). (<https://animal-toolbox.org/>)

Not sure where to start? Check out our 'Introduction to Animal Welfare' [here](https://animal-toolbox.org/what-is-animal-welfare/). (<https://animal-toolbox.org/what-is-animal-welfare/>)

## Library updates

### Visualise Your Thesis competition 2024

Entries for the 2024 UQ Visualise Your Thesis competition closed on Monday 22 July. We congratulate all graduate researchers who prepared submissions for this competition. Winners will be announced on Wednesday 28 August with an event at St Lucia. Read more at <https://web.library.uq.edu.au/blog/2024/05/visualise-your-thesis-competition-2024>

### Introducing the Library Chatbot

The Library is experimenting with some new technology on the Library website. From late July/early August there will be a pilot of the new Library Chatbot, based on Microsoft Copilot technology, on the Library website. The Library Chatbot will be accessible via a pop-up, like the current Live Chat service, and will extend the support that can be offered to library users.

- During staffed hours, users will be able to choose to interact with the Library Chatbot or a library staff member.
- Outside of staff hours, the Library Chatbot will continue to be available and make provision for 24/7 support for library users. If the Library Chatbot can't answer a question it will create an enquiry and library staff will respond on the next business day.

### Indigenising the Curriculum – looking for resources to support this program

Many of the Schools in the Faculty of Science are engaged in work on Indigenising the Curriculum. The Library is working with Learning Designers in ITaLi and our own ATSIC team to explore how the library can continue to support staff in this space. The podcast series by Prof Tracey Bunda and Dr Katelyn Barney featuring academics from across UQ is particularly recommended <https://web.library.uq.edu.au/library-services/teaching-staff/indigenising-curriculum-resources>

## Upcoming events and opportunities

### BrisScience: Adventures in exotic animal medicine

Monday 5 August 6:30-7:30 PM  
The Edge, State Library of Queensland

From avian orthodontics, lizard C-sections and parrot prostheses - Professor Bob "Dr Budgerigar" Doneley has seen it all. During his four decades in the profession, veterinary medicine has advanced at an incredible pace, and no field has advanced as fast as avian and exotic pet medicine.

The in-person event is now sold out; however you can register for the livestream through the link below and hear about Bob's weird, wacky and wonderful adventures in exotic animal medicine and exciting new developments in the field.

[Register for free](#)



### SVS Picnic

Wednesday 7 August, 4-7pm  
Gatton campus central walkway

Join SVS students and staff in the UQ Gatton central walkway for crafts, get to know you activities and entertainment.



### Queensland Mental Health Week

5-13 October 2024

Connect for mental health  
<https://www.qldmentalhealthweek.org.au/>

## 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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