



Veterinary Science Newsletter

News and updates

Farewell to SVS Manager Weston Davis

Weston has been at UQ since late 2014 and has been in the School Manager role for a bit under 10 years. Weston's contribution to the School has been substantial and sustained. He has played key roles in strategic and operational planning and in day-to-day operational management. His impacts in financial management and reporting and in leading the professional staff team within the School have been very important to the School's success over many years. It is difficult to do justice to the wide ranging impact Weston has had on School governance, operations and planning.

Julie Baglot has been appointed as Acting School Manager, SVS, effective from 22 April for a period of 8 weeks. This appointment follows Weston's departure and will support continuity while recruitment for the permanent role is underway. Julie brings extensive experience to the role and is well placed to provide strong support during this interim period.

Third year BVet Tech students celebrate start of clinical rotations

We recently celebrated the Welcome to Clinic Ceremony for our final-year Veterinary Technologist students. Commencing clinical rotations is a huge milestone for our Vet Tech students. A massive thank you to our sponsor, [EAC Animal Care](#), for supporting the event and congratulations to all the students for achieving this tremendous milestone!



SVS Team lead One Health Workshop in Chile

As part of the UQ Global Engagement Grant, Dr Tatiana Probst and Professor Ricardo Soares Magalhães led and delivered a theoretical and practical workshop titled "A One Health Approach to Avian Influenza: Spatial and Network Analysis" at the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile. The workshop aimed to strengthen collaboration between universities and foster future research partnerships with Chile in the area of avian influenza surveillance and control.



Successful media campaign for UQ obesity study

The UQ Retriever project led by Dr Erika Meler had a very successful media campaign this month showcasing our School and the small animal teaching hospital. You might have seen Erika featured last week on the ABC and 7 News as well as on radio and social media to promote awareness on obesity in dogs and recruit additional participants for the study. Interest from the community has been great and we have received many EOIs including enthusiastic requests to participate coming from Melbourne, Perth and Tasmania as the story took off to a national broadcast! Erika thanks the team working alongside her on the project, including Dr Priscila Curso



Almeida, PhD candidate, Associate Professor Justine Gibson, Dr Rebekah Scotney, Professor Joerg Henning and Dr Deirdre Mikkelsen from the School of Agriculture and Food Sustainability as well as Meg Bolton from the UQ Media team, Ella Wright and the three owners of dog participants who were interviewed and contributed to this success.

If you want to enrol your dog or know someone interested, or you just want to know more about the project, please follow the links below:

<https://uqvets.com.au/retriever-study>

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-04-15/impact-of-obesity-on-dogs-focus-of-new-queensland/105180122>

<https://www.uq.edu.au/news/article/2025/04/uq-obesity-study-needs-dog-volunteers>

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-04-15/qld-research-obese-labradors-golden-retrievers-dogs/105175018>

Photo: Erika Meler with Priscila Curso Almeida, Lisa Gore and her dog Willow

School of Veterinary Science Student Placement Support

Placements are vital to student learning and their preparation for 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.

Placement poverty is real – and is often heightened when students do practicums in rural and regional communities. The realities of financial hardship can make students reluctant to step too far outside their comfort zone or too far from home.

With your help, students can stop worrying about making ends meet and put their minds to becoming the very best veterinarians they can be, exploring both city and country pathways.

[Read more](#)

Upcoming events and opportunities

UQ Gatton Diversity Night 2025

Come along to this free event to celebrate diversity within the Gatton student community with food and culture. Please [register](#) for catering purposes.

Date: Thursday 1 May

Time: 5:30-8pm

Location: Foundation Building and Central Walkway

RSVP: [Register](#) for catering purposes



Gatton 3MT Competition

To participate on behalf of School of Veterinary Science, please register as a competitor via [2025 UQ 3MT Competition - Three Minute Thesis - University of Queensland](#)

Interested students can email the SVS HLO, Lauren Reabel via hdr.vet@enquire.uq.edu.au for more information.

Date: Friday 23 May

Time: 12:30-2:30pm

Location: 8150-153



Veterinary and Animal Science Symposium 2025

Abstracts need to be submitted by 12 May. For guidelines and abstract submission follow the link below:

<https://survey.app.uq.edu.au/Veterinary-and-Animal-Science-Symposium-2025---Registration>

Date: Thursday 5 June

Time: 9am-5pm

Location: UQ Gatton, Hamon Centre Learning Theatre

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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