



# College Courier

March 2021

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# EDITOR'S DESK



Welcome to the Autumn edition of the College Courier! We have a big edition ahead with a lot of planning taking place in the past quarter for the College and Chapters as we tackle delivering examinations to a large cohort of candidates and Science Week, which will be delivered in-person and online. 2021 also marks a milestone for the College, celebrating 50 years, and in each edition this year we will be sharing Member reflections on their time and involvement with the College. We welcome Members to share their stories with us by emailing [cm@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:cm@anzcvs.org.au)

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## COUNCIL

President Dr Zoe Lenard	Councillors Dr Charlotte Cantley Dr David Tabrett
Chief Examiner Dr Peter Bennett	Awards Committee Convenor Dr Charlotte Cantley
Honorary Secretary Dr Amy Lane	
Honorary Treasurer Dr Bruce Smith	

## BOARD OF EXAMINERS

Chief Examiner Peter Bennett	Board Members Dr Petra Muellner
Asst Chief Ex (Tr. & Cred.) Katherine Briscoe	Dr Lydia Hambrook
Asst Chief Ex (Exam) Dr Sharanne Raidal	Dr Stephen Atkinson
	Dr Linda Abraham
	Dr Jennifer Carter
	Dr Zoe Lenard (President – ex officio)
	Dr Dave Collins
	Dr Yenny Indrawirawan

## NEW ZEALAND CONTACT

Dr Allen Bryce

Chief Executive Officer Mr Stephen Alderman	Assistant Examinations Officer Ms Jill Meatheringham Ms Jennifer Gleeson
College Manager Dr Mary Anne Hiscutt	Project Officer Dr Rachel Tan
Assistant College Manager Ms Sharon Tinsley	Marketing, Membership and Events Coordinator Mrs Thy Boskovic
Examinations Officer Ms Robyn Pettigrew	Administration Assistant Ms Libby Scharf



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dr Zoe Lenard, President



## CERTIFY. EDUCATE. SHARE.

This is the new ANZCVS motto; it clearly communicates the motivation of our College. As we mark our fiftieth Anniversary, it was time to reimagine what we do, how we do it and how we behave.

The Council spent time reflecting on these questions. The outcome is a redefined ANZCVS Vision, Purpose and Values, and set of strategic goals (2021-2024). This work spanned 2019-2020 and involved the teamwork of nine Councillors, former CEO Shane Klintworth, CEO Stephen Alderman, the College Manager and College Marketing Coordinator, and Nous consulting.

Interestingly, the impact of COVID did not significantly alter our strategic goals (although it did affect our operations). This highlights the strength of the underlying strategy and associated vision. In combination with a better risk framework and more transparent Council process, the governance framework of the College has been significantly bolstered by this work.

The strategic goals will guide Council and College leadership to advance and protect our organisation in coming years.

These actions outline our commitment to excellence in the education space and the strength of our 27 Chapters spanning more of the profession than any other organisation.

We also distilled ANZCVS values to underpin our actions and behaviours. These values apply to individuals and groups within the College and

**VISION**

To recognise veterinary excellence and shape the future of the profession through certification and support of vibrant, engaged and collaborative communities of practice.

**PURPOSE**

Advance professional qualifications and education across the sector, for the benefit of society.

**MOTTO**

Certify. Educate. Share.

**VALUES**

Respect, Integrity, Accountability, Leadership, Stewardship and Community

will help guide us in how we go about our business.

While ongoing travel restrictions and intermittent periods of lockdown have had an impact, fortunately the impact of COVID on ANZCVS has been relatively minor. The end of the first quarter of 2021 suggests Australia and New Zealand is stabilising in the post-COVID landscape.

Council has committed to the ANZCVS proceeding with an in-person Science Week at The Star, Gold Coast on 8, 9 and 10 July. This will be a smaller meeting of only 350 delegates to comply with COVID restrictions. We acknowledge that making travel plans is still challenging for many members. Science Week is part of the fabric that holds our College community together. It is the wish of Council that the ability to provide a smaller conference will still

foster our cross-disciplinary culture and our desire for professional enrichment and learning.

The full suite of Membership and Fellowship exams will proceed in 2021 in locations across Australia and New Zealand that allows people to sit exams with minimal travel. Candidates and examiners are regularly updated about these changes.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the work of Mrs Thy Boskovic, our membership, marketing and events coordinator, who is leaving the ANZCVS after three years. Thy has provided support to many Chapters and members as Science Week has evolved to both The Star (2019) and online (2020). We will miss her and wish her the best for the next phase of her career.

## College Apparel

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# CEO REPORT

Stephen Alderman, CEO



As we embark on this new year, I understand there are still many concerns about how 2021 will play out for us all. Today there is good news from Israel, a country with the most intensive vaccination programme, reporting an 89% reduction in transmission. Their efforts have resulted in over 50% of its population being vaccinated. I am very hopeful these results quickly replicate throughout the world in the coming months, and there is an acceleration in our recovery journey.

Staff, Council and the Board of Examiners, have been assessing and planning the delivery of a robust and safe examination cycle for 2021, this remains our priority. Council has approved a recommendation for decentralised examinations, and we

are now working through a massive list of logistics and delivery tasks. Our College Manager and Examinations Team are working through plans for over 500 candidates from Australia, New Zealand, and many other countries; this is our largest cohort in the history of ANZCVS.

We have had some changes in the Examinations Team, Lynda Kennedy was farewelled in January, and we are fortunate to have two new Examination Team members on board, Jennifer Gleeson and Jill Meatheringham. Both have significant experience around examinations and have hit the ground running, supporting our Examinations Officer Robyn Pettigrew.

Our Marketing, Events and Membership Coordinator, Thy Boskovic will be leaving us at the end of March

to tackle a great new role at the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences and we sincerely wish her every success.

Amongst the myriad of activities in The College, a great milestone has been reached as we celebrate our fiftieth anniversary. We have planned articles throughout this and future issues of the Courier covering the history and future of the College.

A celebration dinner is planned during Science Week, and I look forward to seeing many of you there. In my relatively short time here, I have witnessed exceptional levels of commitment, sharing and volunteerism that continues to build upon an enviable community ethos that I am sure will endure for another 50 years.

# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Shanaka Sarathchandra BVSc, MANZCVS (Small Animal Medicine), MANZCVS (Small Animal Radiology), GradiDipVetStud (Dist)

I first heard about the ANZCVS membership exams when I was a vet student doing work placement in a busy small animal practice. Most of the vets working there had a membership qualification. They said it was a challenging but rewarding way of increasing their knowledge base in a particular area of interest. This was again reinforced during my time as a small animal intern at the University of Sydney. I whole heartedly agree with their statements several years later. The employers I have met and spoken to hold the MANZCVS qualification in

high regard. I chose to study towards the MANZCVS as I could learn at my own pace with guidance from a mentor.

Where else could a general practitioner gain a post graduate qualification in their subject of interest in Australasia? The skills I have learnt on this journey have allowed me to offer a better service to my patients and become a more valued member of the team I work with.

More importantly I now get more job satisfaction. I also clearly appreciate the difference in knowledge base between a vet with a Membership and a specialist with a Fellowship qualification and so know my limits, and when to refer.

There have also been some unexpected benefits namely an



increase in networking with other general practitioners and vet specialists and also the opportunity to give back to the College. I was invited to be a Membership examiner in 2019, I found this a very rewarding experience - something that would have never occurred had I not been a member.

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# UPDATE PROJECT OFFICER

Dr Rachel Tan, Project Officer



## DEMONSTRATION RESOURCE PLATFORM FOR CHAPTERS NOW AVAILABLE!

The College has been investigating pathways to provide Chapters with support in engaging candidates and Members. In response to this, the College has constructed a demonstration resource platform using SharePoint.

This is a web-based collaborative platform that integrates with Microsoft Office and is part of the Office 365 suite of applications. The executive members of all Chapters and certain interested individuals will be receiving an email detailing how to access this site using their College email address. In addition, an informational video on the features available has been made. Feedback will be obtained over the next few months with the potential to roll out Chapter specific sites as required.

If you are interested in the platform, please contact the Members of your executive to organise access to the demonstration platform and accompanying information video. Alternatively, please contact Dr Rachel Tan (Project Officer, [po@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:po@anzcvs.org.au)) for more information.

## MAINTENANCE OF CREDENTIALS

The introduction of Maintenance of Credentials (MOC) requirements will commence after the July 2021 examination period. This has been delayed by one year due to the



worldwide impact of the COVID pandemic. The MOC requirements will apply to all Members and Fellows who are awarded their qualifications from 2021 onwards. Existing Members may choose to participate in MOC on a voluntary basis. Compulsory MOC will be introduced for all Fellows from 2023, including retrospective inclusion.

The MOC program should allow the individual to reflect on their personal knowledge and performance, commit to a process of improvement and re-evaluation, and promote engagement within their professional organisation.

The overall result is to improve quality of the profession, which can be externally promoted and align with accrediting body requirements. The complete details about MOC can be found at Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists ([anzcvs.org.au](http://anzcvs.org.au)).

MOC requirements consist of a designated number of hours per 5-year period which can be achieved through relevant practice in the discipline, ongoing learning, and active involvement in the College. At the end of each 5-year period, Members and Fellow will be categorised as follows:

- Legacy MOC: Existing Members who have not elected to participate in the MOC program
- Active MOC: Members and Fellows who have completed MOC requirements
- Inactive MOC: New Members and Fellows that have not elected to participate or fulfil MOC requirements

It is important to note that active / inactive status is not currently linked to general or specialist registration in Australia or New Zealand. In addition, if you do not wish to participate in the MOC program, you do NOT lose your post nominals at any time unless you cease to be a financial member of the College. The decision on whether to maintain an active status with the College is a personal one and may be dependent on your assessment on whether an "active" MOC status will impact on your professional life.

The College is currently finalising development of a web-based portal to record MOC requirements and will keep members updated when it is available for use.

If you have any questions or feedback on any of the above projects, please contact me via email at [po@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:po@anzcvs.org.au).



# EXAMINATIONS REPORT

Dr Peter Bennett, Chief Examiner



As we move into 2021 the Board of Examiners is progressing the delivery of examinations at Fellowship and Membership levels. Given the ongoing uncertainty brought by the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic the examinations will be delivered utilising dispersed venues for written and practical examinations and remote oral examinations. This decision was based on the Board's experience delivering the Fellowship examinations in 2020. I would like to acknowledge the support of the Council for this plan, and the ongoing hard work of the members of the Board. None of this could be achieved without the excellent work of the office staff, particularly Robyn Pettigrew, the examinations officer.

Delivering the examinations in this manner is not without challenges but will allow the highest likelihood of successful delivery to the greatest number of candidates in the face of potential ongoing border restrictions and local lockdowns. Unfortunately, snap lockdowns are likely to remain with us until after the examination period, leading to the potential that some candidates might be unable to sit this year. The plans in place will reduce, but not eliminate, this risk.

The workforce of volunteers from the Chapters, Examiners, Subject Examination Committees and Chapter Executives, again are providing invaluable support for the examinations. The pandemic has thrown personal challenges to many people and the time dedicated to developing, delivering, and assessing the examinations is an additional task. The examinations would

not be possible without the efforts of this group of people.

Another facet of the examinations for 2021 is the size of the 2021 cohort of candidates. Only Fellowship examinations were run in 2020 with all Membership subjects deferred to 2021. This has led to a typical cohort size of Fellowship candidates, but a large cohort of over 500 candidates at Membership level. This has an impact on the coordination and delivery of the examinations, an additional challenge for the examination teams and office staff. I have confidence that through the work of all involved we will successfully provide quality examinations in 2021.

As well as the examinations the other roles of the Board continue. I would like to thank the members of the Board for their time and effort during these times. The Assistant Chief Examiners, Sharanne Raidal and Kath Briscoe, continue to lead the Examinations Committee and Training and Credentials Committee in an exemplary manner, with all on the Board provide

invaluable input into these important functions of the College.

Lastly, I would also like to warmly welcome two new College staff, Jennifer Gleeson and Jill Meatheringham, who have joined the examinations team as Assistant Examination Officers to help us deliver examinations this year. I would also like to warmly welcome two new Board of Examiner members, Dr David Collins and Dr Yenny Indrawirawan. We look forward to receiving their valuable advice and contribution to the Board.

Regards  
Peter



# → COUNCIL ELECTIONS



The College Council is the body that administers the College on behalf of the Membership. Your involvement is essential. Two places on Council are available for election this year, with nominations for these positions currently being called.

Dr Bruce Smith will retire from Council in July after serving six years as a Councillor. We have been greatly appreciative of Bruce's support, leadership, integrity, dedication and hard work, especially in his role as Honorary Treasurer and chair of the Finance and Risk Committee. We thank him for his valuable contribution to the College, and wish him all the best. Dr Amy Lane has indicated that she will stand for re-election to Council. Dr Lane is the current Honorary Secretary, President-elect and serves on the Finance and Risk Committee and the Governance Working Group.

All members should consider nominating for Council, if you have an interest in the future and objectives of the College and a desire to make a significant contribution to the veterinary profession. Councillors are offered directorship training and extensive support from the College office and find the experience of serving on Council to be a most rewarding and enjoyable one. All financial Members and Fellows of the College are eligible for nomination and election for Council. A nomination form is available here. <https://ripehosting.blob.core.windows.net/anzcvs-dev-media/32240/anzcvs-council-nomination-form-2021-interactive-pdf.pdf>

As a member of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists, you are encouraged to vote in the 2021 Council election. Council, as the Board of Directors of the College, manages the day to day operations and strategic objectives of the College and therefore significantly influences the future of the veterinary profession in Australia and New Zealand.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNCILLORS

1. Councillors should hold copies of and be familiar with the current Constitution.
2. Councillors have an obligation to participate actively in College affairs and activities and to this end should familiarise themselves with the decisions of the Council and Board of Examiners by reading all Minutes, Policies, Memoranda and Reports distributed by the College Office. Councillors should respond to College issues raised in these documents.
3. Councillors should maintain an active interest in the affairs and activities of the College and its Chapters and provide an avenue of liaison and guidance.
4. Councillors have an obligation to attend in-person Council meetings and the Annual General Meeting where fares, accommodation and necessary meals are paid by the College.
5. Councillors should act as ambassadors for the College by promoting membership and fellowship.
6. Councillors have the same legal responsibilities as the directors of any company of limited liability.
7. All elected Councillors must be prepared to offer themselves for office.
8. Councillors will receive extensive support from College management staff, plus training in corporate governance.

## HOW TO NOMINATE

To nominate for Council, please download and complete the online form available [here](#). Nominations close 23 May 2021.

## FEATURE STORY



As we celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the College, we will be sharing Member stories in each College Courier as we reflect on the rich history of the College and what membership means to members.

### ANZCVS

By Janine van Dam BVSc MANZCVS  
(Small Animal Dentistry and Oral Surgery)

I graduated from Massey University in New Zealand 24 years ago and 22 years old. With the last of my student loan I purchased my work car, a Toyota station wagon, packed it with all my belongings and headed from Auckland down to Southland to start my first job. The mixed practice was owned by four male vets from Scotland, England, South Africa and New Zealand. On my first day I loaded

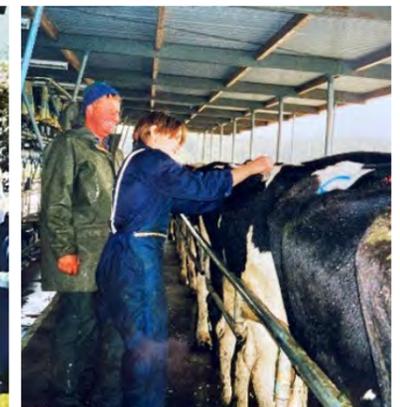
could tune in. It was better to ask in private when I returned to the clinic. In my second year we got a cell phone the size of a phone book and I was ecstatic to be able to leave the house when on call.

The work was diverse; calvings, palpating ram's testicles, manually pregnancy testing cows, de-velveting stags and TB testing deer.

I would often arrive back at the clinic with whitebait fritters or scones on the passenger seat. Once I found the storage fridge packed with crayfish around the vaccination boxes; the

with thiopentone, dipped x-rays manually and the idea of a dental x-ray machine or an ultrasonic descaler was as foreign as the thought of a COVID pandemic.

Two years later I headed out into the wide world on my OE, backpacked around the globe and worked around the UK. It wasn't until 2008 that I finally returned to NZ and settled in Christchurch, just in time for the full earthquake experience. I worked full time in a small animal clinic, performed a lot of dental operations then spent a year on maternity leave in Chile. When



my car with gloves, drugs, lube, boxes of Selenium and vaccinations and was given a map. Google maps didn't exist. I didn't even have an email account. A radio transmitter had been fitted in the car but I was advised not to ask too many questions as the locals

boss had been snorkelling with mates and had caught one for all the employees. Even though the learning curve was steep, I was encouraged and supported; someone was always there to be my mentor, give advice or discuss a problem. In the clinic surgery we induced working dogs

I returned, I became employed in a clinic which was part of a corporation. It was then that I realised how much the veterinary profession had changed and would continue to change. Although I could see the benefit in veterinary corporations especially



with regard to sharing equipment and in-house continuing education, I felt a loss that many practices were no longer owned by an experienced vet who was in the building and working alongside you. The mentorship that I had from my colleagues in my first job seemed in many cases to be a thing of the past. Experienced vets were being replaced by new graduates purely because they were less expensive to employ, thereby reducing the skill set and veterinary mentors available.

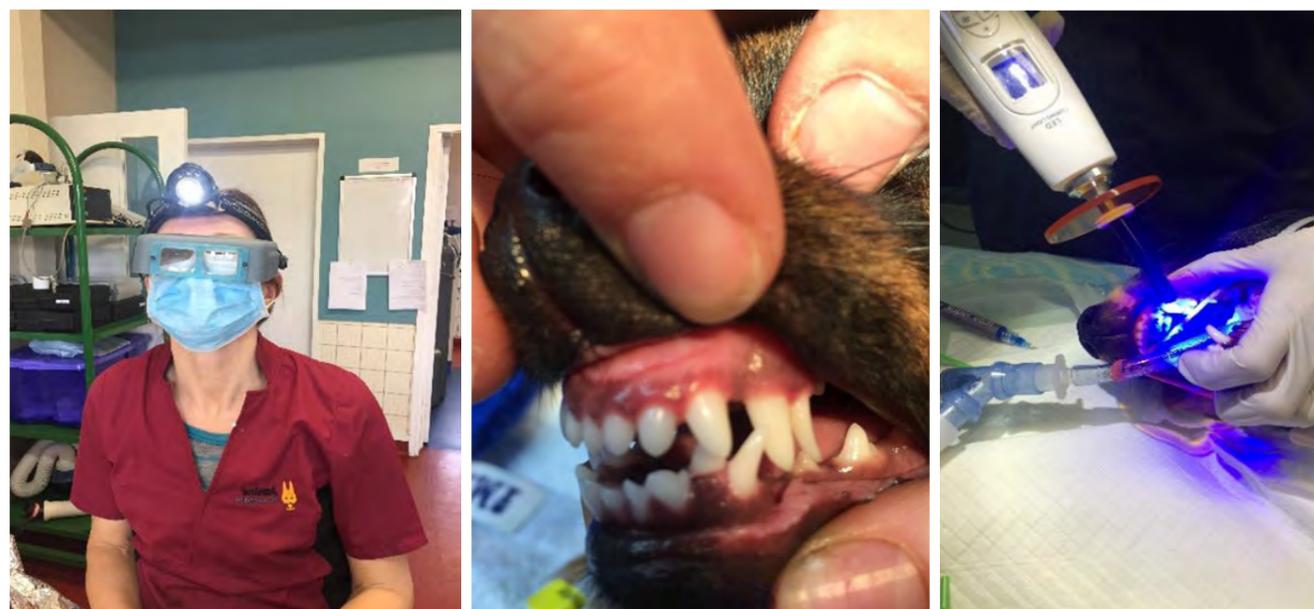
With the corporate model, often the veterinary owner is in a different city

College. I rationalized that as I was already doing a large amount of dentistry operations, my increased knowledge and skills gained through study would not be wasted even if I were to fail the exam. I realised the dentistry field was one of growth, change and therefore potential.

The resistance from my practice to purchase a digital dental x-ray system was extreme, and I was genuinely surprised at the lack of foresight where I could see so much potential. But the wheels of corporate practices can be hard to turn and the clinic had a strict

Chapter are exceedingly welcoming and supportive. Being part of the Facebook group gives me access to a variety of views, a vast amount of knowledge and also collegiality. I have given presentations at conferences, presentations to the local NZVA branches and helped to teach vets extraction skills at workshops working alongside a dental specialist.

I believe the benefit of the ANZCVS over other pathways of learning, is that once you pass your exams (Membership or Fellowship) the qualification is instantly recognisable



a video chat away and the clinic run by a manager with experience in HR who flits between clinics, never fully understanding the thrill in finally finding the barley grass seed.

I became increasingly frustrated by the KPI targets dangled in front of me that were unattainable for a part-time vet and for the first time in my career became disillusioned with the profession.

But my veterinary career was saved by ANZCVS!

After attending a NZVA dental workshop I was inspired by colleagues who were already members of the

budget that had to be adhered to.

In 2016 I gained membership to the dentistry chapter and I started my own company Pet Dentistry. Five years later, I am working almost completely in the dentistry field and receiving referrals from around the South Island of NZ. Most practices understandably don't have the materials for restorations, orthodontics or root canals and I get great pleasure in providing a service which until recently had not existed in this part of NZ.

Gaining membership to the ANZCVS has opened many doors for me in many different ways. Very importantly, the members of the Dentistry

to colleagues. The reputation and standards of the College speak for themselves. The qualification gives individual vets the opportunity to delve deep into a subject of interest, increasing their own knowledge and enjoyment at work but may also have a knock-on effect for the community.

They can become a resource for local vets to use for help with difficult medical cases or surgeries. Membership provides a space between a general veterinarian and specialist that is within the capabilities of all vets who dream of passing. And a dream that you may actually achieve is very appealing!



ANZCVS

# SCIENCE WEEK 2021

IN-PERSON & ONLINE

8-10 July 2021  
The Star, Gold Coast

[www.vetscienceweek.com.au](http://www.vetscienceweek.com.au)

# EVENTS UPDATE

## SCIENCE WEEK

Science Week will be delivered in-person and online on-demand in 2021! This means that if you are interested in attending in-person, we welcome you to The Star, Gold Coast, where we will gather to connect and learn in-person.

If you cannot make it in-person, we are pleased to present Science Week On-Demand Online. As a virtual delegate you can watch pre-recorded presentations online in the comfort of your home, office or clinic.

Presentations will be scheduled to play during Science Week, and available on demand immediately after.

Plus, if you register for one day of on-demand presentations, you will also have access to ALL of the in-person presentations, which will be recorded as well.

As an in-person delegate you will also receive access to all the on-demand presentations for the day you are registered.

The following Chapters have indicated they will be delivering a program in 2021. Please note this list is subject to change:

### In-Person Participating Chapters

- Small Animal Medicine & Feline
- Veterinary Oncology
- Veterinary Behaviour
- Animal Reproduction
- Pharmacology
- Cattle
- Veterinary Sports and Rehabilitation Medicine
- Unusual Pets
- Zoo and Wildlife

### Online Participating Chapters

- Epidemiology
- Equine
- Aquatic Animal Health

The College will be working closely with the venue to ensure a COVID safe event is delivered.

Members will be alerted to when registrations open, so stay tuned to your email for more information!

## SCIENTIFIC ABSTRACTS

Scientific abstracts will be delivered on a date outside of Science Week in an online forum.

The College defines a scientific abstract as an overview of a novel scientific research project that provides a scientific audience with a concise but comprehensive representation of the entire project.

Case series and case studies with high educational value may also fit this definition.

More information about Scientific Abstracts will be available shortly.



## 50 YEAR CELEBRATIONS

The Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists is proudly celebrating our fiftieth anniversary in 2021. As the premier body certifying excellence in veterinary science in Australia and New Zealand, ANZCVS has evolved and grown significantly since its inception.

Established in May 1971, the College was born from a strong need within the Australian veterinary community for post-graduate qualifications undertaken outside the University setting.

From our small beginnings with 14 candidates in 1973, to today with an average of 270 candidates enrolled each year, the College has gone from strength to strength in the past 50 years. As a result, our membership has grown from just over 1000 members in the early 90s, to over 2800 members today.

While our purpose hasn't changed, our vision has: To recognise veterinary excellence and shape the future of the profession through certification and support of vibrant, engaged and collaborative communities of practice.

Through our commitment to excellence in veterinary science, we aim to empower veterinarians to continue our tradition of excellence through challenging them.

In 2021 we are deeply thrilled to celebrate 50 years of ANZCVS.

Read more about our 50-year milestone on our website here. <https://www.anzcv.org.au/anzcv-50-year-anniversary/>



## ANZCVS COAT OF ARMS REFRESH

As the College enters its fiftieth year, we are pleased to present our updated ANZCVS Coat of Arms and 50-year celebration badge. The original Coat of Arms has remained largely unchanged since the establishment of the College, and as we look towards the future, we have updated the Coat of Arms to illustrate clean lines, convey a modern interpretation of each element on the crest and enable it to be reproduced better digitally and in print.

We welcome and encourage Members and the broader veterinary community to join us in celebrating our fiftieth year, through sharing our updated Coat of Arms and 50-year badge. Download your digital banner via our website here. <https://www.anzcv.org.au/anzcv-50-year-anniversary/anzcv-coat-of-arms-and-50-year-celebration-badge/>

## CELEBRATE WITH US

We will be reflecting and celebrating our fifty years of veterinary excellence through a wide number of activities including:

- Feature articles from Members in our quarterly Member publication, The College Courier
- A celebratory gala dinner at the conclusion of Science Week
- A fiftieth anniversary oration, delivered online

Share your stories and images of ANZCVS with us!

Email your memories to [marketing@anzcv.org.au](mailto:marketing@anzcv.org.au) or tag us on your social channels #ANZCVS50 or @ANZCVS

Two horizontal banners for ANZCVS members. The top banner is dark red and labeled 'ANZCVS Member' with the tagline 'CERTIFY | EDUCATE | SHARE' and 'CELEBRATING 50 YEARS IN 2021'. The bottom banner is dark blue and labeled 'ANZCVS Fellow' with the same tagline and 'CELEBRATING 50 YEARS IN 2021'. Both banners feature the 50th anniversary logo and the ANZCVS coat of arms.



# ➔ NEW FELLOWS

Welcome and congratulations to our new ANZCVS Fellows



## ASHLEY PHIPPS

Ash graduated in 2011 from the University of Melbourne with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science, first class honours. He has worked at Rochester Veterinary Practice since graduation. He completed a three year residency (2013-2016) in Dairy Cattle Medicine with the University of

Melbourne, which included completing a Master of Veterinary Science (Clinical), a Master of Veterinary Studies and a graduate certificate in Veterinary Public Health. He achieved membership to the Cattle Chapter of the ANZCVS in 2015 (Dairy Cattle Medicine). Subsequent to this he undertook a Fellowship Training program in Dairy Cattle Medicine and Management whilst based in rural practice, in conjunction with the University of Queensland (Gatton), Production Animal Services.



## INGRID GOODMAN

Ingrid graduated in 2009 from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science, first class honours. Initially she worked in mixed animal practice in Maitland, followed by small animal practice. In 2012 she

completed a small animal medicine internship at the Animal Referral Hospital in Sydney. In 2013 achieved membership to the Small Animal Medicine Chapter of the ANZCVS and in 2015 membership to the Small Animal Radiology Chapter. Subsequent to this she undertook a small animal medicine residency at Veterinary Specialist Services in Brisbane. For fun you'll find Ingrid doing aerial silks.



## TUNBI IDOWU

Tunbi graduated from Murdoch University in 2010 with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery. She spent 5 years in small animal general practice, where she committed her-

self to expanding her knowledge and skillset, by partaking in various continuing education activities, including a CVE 12-month distance education course in surgery.

Her commitment to continuing education earned her Chartered Membership of the Australian Veterinary Association in 2012. In 2014 she achieved membership to the Small Animal Medicine Chapter. Subsequent to this she undertook a 2-year small animal medicine residency at Melbourne Veterinary Specialist Centre.

She then worked as a medicine registrar at the Animal Referral Hospital, Canberra, and currently works at the Small Animal Specialist Hospital, Central Coast.

Fellowship exam preparation has been more than a harrowing experience, it has been a protracted process; punctuated by resilience, gumption, trepidation and tribulation. I was confident I would persevere with these exams but not confident that these exams would ever be surmountable. Thus to my family, friends, mentors and colleagues that had confidence in me- thank you!

I hope to continue to build on my knowledge and skills and use my experience to help other fellowship candidates.

**Dr Sonia Yu**  
**Veterinary Oncology**



## KRISTEN LLOYD

Kristen graduated from Murdoch University in 2014 with a High Distinction in BVMS, before undertaking a rotating surgical internship at Goulburn Valley Equine Hospital in 2015. Kristen then

undertook an Equine Surgery residency at the University of Melbourne over the following 3 years, during which time she achieved membership to the Equine Chapter of the ANZCVS in Surgery of Horses, and completed a dual Masters in Veterinary Science and Veterinary Studies. Since finishing her residency in 2018, Kristen has moved back to Western Australia and now works at West Coast Veterinary Hospital.



## TOMMY FLUÉN

Tommy graduated in 2014 from the University of Melbourne with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. Initially he worked in small animal practice in the United Kingdom. In 2016 he completed a small animal rotating internship at

Davies Veterinary Specialists in Hertfordshire, United Kingdom alongside Dr Madeline Roberts who has also achieved Fellowship of the ANZCVS this year. Subsequent to this Tommy began a small animal internal medicine residency at the 'Veterinary Specialist Group' in Auckland, New Zealand and achieved membership to the Small Animal Medicine Chapter of the ANZCVS in 2018.



## MADELEINE ROBERTS

Maddie graduated from the University of Sydney in 2014 with first class honours. After a stint in general practice, she ventured to the United Kingdom and completed a rotating internship at Davies Veterinary Specialists. The fol-

lowing year, she returned to Australia to undertake a small animal medicine residency at SASH. In 2018 Maddie gained membership to the ANZCVS and was the recipient of the membership prize. Upon completion of her residency she returned to her alma mater and enjoys sharing her passion of internal medicine with upcoming vets. She is still in a state of shock after completing her examinations and is thankful to the college for facilitating the exams in socially distanced conditions!



## VICTORIA BROOKES

Victoria graduated from the University of Edinburgh and initially worked in mixed practice in Cumbria in the UK, followed by periods in small animal emergency practice, equine practice and as a locum in large animal

practice in Australia. In 2002 she achieved membership to the Avian Health Chapter, then membership of the Epidemiology Chapter of the ANZCVS in 2010. Since then, she has completed her PhD at the University of Sydney and now teaches and researches Population Health and Production at Charles Sturt University.



## ALEN LAI

Alen graduated in 2008 from the University of Queensland with first class honours. After spending time in general practice, he completed a multi-disciplinary internship at the University of Sydney Veterinary

Teaching Hospital, followed by a surgical specialty residency at North Shore Veterinary Specialist Hospital. He looks forward to life post fellowship with his wife and family, as well as welcoming their first son in June 2021.



## ELIZABETH MORGAN

After the completion of a Bachelor of Veterinary Science in 2010 from the University of Queensland, Elizabeth worked in mixed and small practices across NSW and QLD. She then completed a rotating internship in

2014 at Veterinary Specialist Services before moving into an oncology internship position in 2015 and completing ANZCVS membership exams in Small Animal Medicine. In 2016, she commenced an oncology residency with Drs. Kathleen O'Connell and Maurine Thomson which was completed at Animal Referral Hospital – Brisbane. Elizabeth passed her fellowship examination in Veterinary Oncology in 2020.

# CHAPTERS

## ANIMAL WELFARE CHAPTER

2021 Animal Welfare Veterinary Student Publication Award – deadline extended

We thank Chapter members Kat Littlewood, Sarah Zito and Cree Monaghan for volunteering to set up the Award and to act as the selection panel. The award will recognise four veterinary students (undergraduate or postgraduate) who have published, or recently submitted a paper, on animal welfare.

The application form can be downloaded [here](#).

NEW deadline is 30 March 2021.

Please contact Kat Littlewood, our Chapter Secretary for more information; [secretaryanimalwelfare@anzcvs.com.au](mailto:secretaryanimalwelfare@anzcvs.com.au) Please promote this widely.

Chapter Member becomes Royal Fellow



Tanya Stephens

Special congratulations go to Tanya Stephens for being awarded Fellowship for Meritorious Contribution to the Profession (MCP) by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons for 2020.

In addition to running her own practice in Sydney, Tanya is current President of AVAWE, the welfare and ethics SIG of the AVA, and is a member of various other committees and advisory panels.

In addition to animal welfare and ethics, Tanya also has a keen interest in conservation and has published several papers on her original research on galactosaemia in kangaroos.

### 2021 Science Week update

Sincere thanks to Shari Cohen, our scientific convenor who is working hard to finalise the Animal Welfare Chapter program – at this stage it will be delivered online including potential joint sessions with Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia, Laboratory Animals and Cattle Chapters.

It was a difficult decision not to offer an in-person conference but with so much uncertainty and limited resources, the tough call was made to offer online presentations.

The program is shaping up to be fantastic! Confirmation of details to follow.

*Di Evans  
President*

## EMERGENCY AND CRITICAL CARE

Hello to all fellow members!

As we all welcome in a new year and turn our backs to 2020, we are no doubt still accepting and getting comfortable with this new way of life.

Though in our lifetime this will be short lived, the ECC Chapter will continue to make in-roads and adjust to deliver new and innovative ways to encourage new members, and develop our Chapter within our profession.

In this spirit, an engagement survey was sent out on 25 January 2021 to all members. This information will be presented at the AGM 2021 and suggestions welcomed to enhance our Chapter from this information. It will help the ECC Chapter develop new ways to assist current members, as well as develop learning opportunities through the College LMS system which is under development.

A big thank you to all members that replied to the email regarding attending Science Week in 2021. At the time that this was written, the ECC Chapter will likely be in an online format.

The final decision would have been made by the exec committee, and reasons for this would no doubt have been sent to you by the time you are reading this. It is imperative as a Chapter, regardless of the format, that we continue to progress our knowledge and provide up to date material disbursement, be it online



or in-person, whilst supporting future candidates and current members. Last year was a success with 40-80 people attending each session, and though the collegial benefits an in-person event invokes, we need to balance personal risk (health and financial), members preferences and Chapter finances in putting this event on.

Convenor Oriana Leong and Vice-convenor Tom Wright are busily putting a program together in time for mid-year. All member's patience and attitude towards the decisions made has been greatly appreciated.

The members examinations will see a large cohort of people sitting this year. Head Subject Examiner Trudi McAlees has had a massive task this year coordinating the delivery of the increased number of oral examinations and examiners required.

Though a date is to be confirmed, all oral examinations will be online this year, and likely spread out over a 3-day period. If you are interested in getting involved, please don't hesitate to get in contact with myself at [presidentecc@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:presidentecc@anzcvs.org.au) and I will pass along your information to those involved.

Other areas from our last minutes the Chapter is still looking to develop include;

- RECOVER Initiative workshops (deferred at this time due to pandemic limitations)
- Members oral examination preparation guidelines
- EOI for member to drive Member candidate mentoring program
- EOI for pathophysiology rounds or courses for member candidates
- EOI for Chapter website development

The Chapter website proposal is likely to be substituted for a College developed Resource Platform that could assist having a membership candidate mentoring program through delivery of pathophysiology rounds, Journal Clubs for residents and member candidates, Fellowship and Membership examinations updates, Chapter news disbursement, and other working group information. Stay tuned for this development!

Thanks again to everyone in the ECC Chapter and the challenges you have all risen to working in this volatile, ambiguous and complex time, especially in the face of increased workloads and veterinary staff shortages. We will thrive on the other side of this COVID life as being in emergency, we are trained for it!

*Regards,  
Courtney Reddrop*

## EPIDEMIOLOGY CHAPTER

The year has started quietly for the Epidemiology chapter. We welcome Dr Viki Brookes as our newest Fellow, congratulations Viki! She is a Senior Lecturer in Population Health and Production at Charles Sturt University. She joins the Chapter's Subject Standards Committee, replacing Dr Petra Mueller.

We take the occasion to thank Petra for her years serving in different positions in the chapter and to thank Viki for joining the committee so promptly.

The convenor team, led by Skye Fruean, is busy preparing for this year's Science Week. While the College has announced a face-to-face event, we want to make sure we allow all members to benefit, even in case of a regional lock down.

We still need to decide on some aspects but at least some of the content will be offered online. Stay tuned for more information, and as always please stay in touch if you have any suggestion, request or success story to share.

*Sincerely,  
Epidemiology Chapter Executive*

## EQUINE CHAPTER

We wish all our members a very Happy New Year and we hope that 2021 will bring slightly fewer challenges than 2020.

This year, we have candidates sitting Membership examinations in Equine Surgery, Equine Medicine and Equine Practice and Fellowship examinations in Equine Medicine and Surgery.

Due to the ongoing and evolving COVID pandemic restrictions that may be implemented with limited warning, a decision has been made by the ANZCVS Board of Examiners to conduct the Membership and



Fellowship examinations remotely in a similar format to the Fellowship examinations in 2020.

Candidates will attend state venues with invigilators present for all sections of the examination. The oral examinations will be held via Zoom in the state venue with an observer present. Details including examination dates are available on the College website

Unfortunately, due to the ongoing uncertainty regarding travel and border restrictions we have also had to revise our plans for delivery of the Equine Chapter programme at Science Week in 2021.

We will now be offering an on-demand online event, similar to the online Scientific Series that was delivered in 2020. We hope you enjoyed the lectures presented in 2020 and we have an exciting programme planned for this year, featuring esteemed international guest speakers, Eric Parente and Louise Southwood from the University of Pennsylvania USA.

They will present 6-7 hours of pre-recorded lectures during the conference period from Thursday 8 to Saturday 10 July, with a live Q&A session on Sunday 11 July which will allow you to interact with the speakers

and ask any questions you may have after watching the lectures. They will cover topics including diseases and management of the upper respiratory tract and the acute abdomen and they are world-renowned for their expertise in these areas.

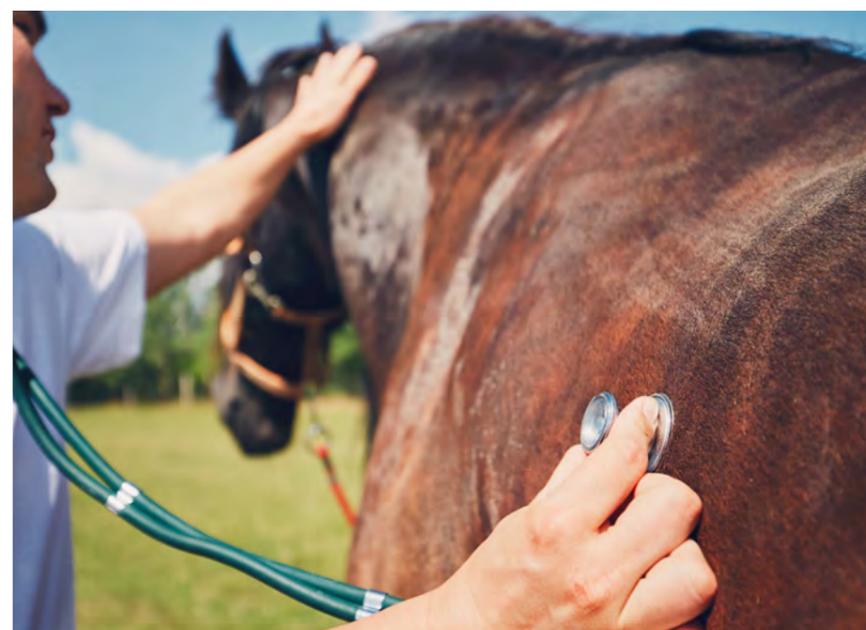
The full programme will be advertised soon so please keep an eye out for it!

Later in the year, there will also be an equine research abstract session that you, your graduate students, residents or interns may wish to participate in and details regarding submission due dates and the format of the session will be available soon.

We are hopeful that we can include our excellent local speakers who were originally scheduled to speak in 2021 at Science Week on the Gold Coast in 2022.



Eric Parente



Louise Southwood

We thank our members for your continued support of the ANZCVS Equine Chapter and appreciate your patience and understanding as we navigate through the uncertain times that we have faced in 2020 and still face in 2021.

### FELINE CHAPTER

After all the challenges that 2020 held, the Feline Chapter is excited to be working on new developments in 2020. Preparations are underway for College Science Week, which will be adapted to align with predicted social distancing requirements. Chantal Celindano, in conjunction with Keshe Chow and Rachel Korman, will be convening the 2021 CSW program.

We are putting together a fantastic program in collaboration with the Small Animal Medicine Chapter, spanning diverse topics including cardiology, oncology, cytology and infectious diseases. With two days devoted largely to feline content, this will be a wonderful way of re-connecting with your feline-focused colleagues and learning about the latest, cutting-edge feline research.

Rachel, our Treasurer, has also been hard at work launching a new Feline Chapter Journal Club which will be run via the newly-launched ANZCVS Resource Platform. Stay tuned for further information regarding this!

As usual, the Chapter executive welcomes any members who wish to



contribute to the smooth running of the Chapter. Please feel free to approach any of us in person or via e-mail if you wish to volunteer your skills to the smooth running of the chapter.

We hope to see some of you – either in-person or remotely – in July this year!

Kath Briscoe – President  
Rachel Korman – Treasurer  
Keshe Chow – Secretary

### NEW ZEALAND NETWORK

We are delighted to be hosting our second face to face meeting which will be in Christchurch on 8 April at The George Hotel. It will be free to Network members, but non-members will also be welcome to attend (at a small charge). Live-stream and video recording will be available online for those who cannot attend in person. In line with the One Health theme at our inaugural meeting, we have two excellent speakers speaking about vaccines, a very topical issue.

Dr William Rolleston MB, Ch B, CNZM, Production Director, South Pacific Sera

Emeritus Professor Frank Griffin BA, PhD, FRSNZ, Founding Director Disease Research Ltd

Topic: Veterinary Vaccines: Current Innovations and Future Trends.

This is a great opportunity to meet and socialise with Kiwi ANZCVS members.

If you have any questions please contact our secretary Lysney Earl to [secretaryzn@anzcv.org.au](mailto:secretaryzn@anzcv.org.au) if you would like to attend in person. We'll be sending more information out about how to link in for the live stream, venue details and times.

### ONCOLOGY CHAPTER

It has been a relatively quiet quarter for the Oncology Chapter. We do not have any candidates sitting their Fellowship examinations in 2021 so the annual meeting to write and prepare



the examination was not required. We look forward to the meeting later this year in preparation for the 2022 exams!

Drs Kathleen O'Connell and Penny Brown have been keeping busy planning for the 2021 Science Week program. As you are probably aware, we are hoping and planning for an in-person event this year, however we will need to have contingency plans in place for an online event depending on the state of the pandemic closer to the date. We thank Penny and Kathleen once again for their tireless efforts in organising the Science week program.

A few of our members have utilised our new published Chapter group email system for some great questions and group discussions. This is fantastic to see this in action!

A special mention to one of our chapter members, Johanna Todd, for publishing her paper, "Long-term survival in a cat with pancreatic adenocarcinoma treated with surgical resection and toceranib phosphate" in the Journal of Feline medicine and surgery. Here is a link to the article: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2055116920924911>.

Finally, a quick reminder for those who are interested in signing up for the US Veterinary Cancer Society's 2020 online

virtual conference. It was an excellent meeting featuring a combination of keynote speakers; clinical updates; resident abstracts and posters; along with a technician stream.

It was fabulous to be able to access such high-quality scientific information from the comfort of our homes and/or offices and the content will continue to be available online for 12 months. Registrations remain open until October 2021 with all content accessible via recorded video sessions.

Any ANZCVS Oncology Chapter members who are not VCS members, are entitled to a \$100 discount with proof of registration within our Chapter. Prior to registering, send proof of your membership to VCS ([vetcancersociety@yahoo.com](mailto:vetcancersociety@yahoo.com)) and a special code will be emailed providing you with the discount (see <http://vetcancersociety.org/conference/registrations/> for full details).

Please don't hesitate to contact us regarding chapter matters and if you would like to be involved in chapter activities.

Warm regards,  
Laura Brockley  
[presidentvetonco@anzcv.org.au](mailto:presidentvetonco@anzcv.org.au)



## ANZCVS Member

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### PATHOBIOLOGY CHAPTER

2021 sees a combination of new and returning members of the pathobiology chapter executive with enthusiasm for increasing engagement across the chapter membership, within the broader pathology community and across complimentary disciplines. Initiatives and activities include:

#### Science Week

We are aiming for increased Pathobiology Chapter presence and participation at Science week in 2022. With exams being held remotely, the uncertainty as to state border closures and work-related travel approvals limited, we decided to lay low for 2021 with plenty of time to plan ahead for 2022.

We look forward to reaching out to other Chapters to see how pathologists can contribute more to collaborative learning opportunities at Science Week. Please let me know if you are interested in presenting either on a topic of special passion/experience or your research relevant to related disciplines at Science Week 2022. Thank you to Rachel Allavena for volunteering as the Science week coordinator for Pathobiology

We have also approached the Australian Society for Veterinary Pathology to combine the major Australian pathology conference with Science week on a semi recurring basis.

#### Membership Examinations

1) As a Chapter we need to consider the ongoing relevance of membership examinations, to make sure they maintain accessibility to candidates from different disciplines within the broad banner of pathobiology while offering a useful experience to

residents aiming to undertake further specialist qualifications.

Discussions with our subject committee and the examination committees to evaluate the membership examination format are underway. The Chapter is always under pressure to remove choice from the exam, to bring us in line with other Chapter exam formats and reduce the chance of candidate exam technique error.

We are currently discussing a move towards paper two being different for anatomic and clinical pathology streams, while still maintaining a requirement for some interdisciplinary knowledge (e.g paper two for anatomic candidates is proposed to be 70-75% anatomic specific questions with 20-25% basic clinical pathology, and paper two for clinical pathology candidates is proposed to be 70-75% clinical pathology with 20-25% and basic anatomical pathology), the oral exam can be the same questions but these are able to be answered from anatomical or clinical pathology knowledge base.

These alterations would allow more targeted questioning to a slightly higher level befitting the greater experience in one field more dominant in the background of most of our candidates, while maintaining minimal competence expectations in the other field. Two anatomic and two clinical pathology examiners could serve as multidisciplinary teams marking both papers, as per previously. Thank you to Natalie Courtman for agreeing to lead the Subject Standards Committee through this consideration process

2) The exam committee are working determinedly to move the exam to digital format for 2021 and provide an adequate practice environment for

digital slide familiarization – all your time and effort is greatly appreciated, a sincere thank you Christina McCowan as chair, John Mundy, Patrick Shearer and Helen Peam.

3) I would like to open the discussion to the membership on options for new and innovative ways to encourage new members. I am interested to hear ideas from our members on how to do this.

To start the discussion I am raising the possibility of a clinical pathology exam that is accessible to interested general practitioners/medicine residents. Hematology and biochemistry interpretations plus cytology are routine integral parts of everyday general practice and patient care could be much improved by offering this level of continued education to clinicians in practice.

It may also increase availability/access to laboratory work-based training programs to more people, this may become more important in this current environment where universities are under immense financial pressure affecting their ability to offer resident training positions.

The standard of many in house hematology machines and the full data that can be obtained from these instruments (e.g evaluation of the cytograms) is often on par to laboratory-based machines, there is a big scope to improve in house assimilation of this data, it is not the exclusive level of residents in training only anymore.

I believe that with motivated study and appropriate mentoring, experience and extra motivation to get a little bit of exposure to gross and surgical pathology (which will also really help any PMs they do in practice) it is feasible for clinicals to obtain



membership level competency in clinical pathology to pass the clinical pathology orientated/stream paper 2 exam as proposed above. I expect that has let the cat out of the bag, it is quite a change to consider to our previous 'exclusive' modus operandi, aimed at only those able to spend time training in a residency or commercial laboratory environment, please be open minded and kind in any correspondence.

#### Other

The College is continuing to liaise with the Chapter about developing the pathobiology learning management space/mentor resources areas for the Chapter on the College website. This is to aid candidates studying towards membership exams (space for journal club and rounds-like actives, google document storage for access by study groups etc). Plus, access to digital slides for practice cases and examinations. Are there any IT/internet savvy people who could volunteer to take the lead on this?

Please don't hesitate to get in contact with me if you have ideas that you'd like to share and contribute for the future vibrancy of the chapter, or if you'd like to discuss the initiatives raised above.

Emma Croser (President)  
[presidentpathobiology@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:presidentpathobiology@anzcvs.org.au)

### PHARMACOLOGY CHAPTER

Our scientific committee are busily preparing a great one day "in-person" program for Science Week in July. We are excited to announce that we have Professor Peter Irwin from Murdoch University presenting on Canine Ehrlichiosis. As many know the current outbreak and its spread across Australia is of major concern. Peter is a specialist in vector-borne disease and will provide an overview of the disease as well as covering pharmacologic options (evidence-based data) for prevention and control.



Prof Peter Irwin

In addition to this session, we have Dr Rhian Cope, Principal Toxicologist from the APVMA and Associate Professor at The University of New England, providing us with updates on mycotoxicosis and cannabis use in animals, as well as a session on the possible occupational exposure of vets to ketamine which can result in positive drug tests.



Dr Rhian Cope

With more speakers to be added we are looking forward to fantastic day on the Gold Coast in July and encourage you to consider attending the conference this year.

On other matters, the Chapter executive decided at our recent meeting that we would not proceed with our efforts to re-instate a Fellowship program for the chapter at this point in time.

Chapter members interested in progressing beyond membership are encouraged to investigate further qualifications with either the American or European Colleges of Pharmacology. It is hoped that when the Chapter has a greater number of members that are 'Diplomates' of an overseas College we will be able to re-start a home-grown Fellowship training program.

Finally, many thanks to our tireless examinations committee as they prepare for examinations later this year and good luck to our candidates preparing for membership examination. Please make sure to familiarise yourselves with the different exam conditions this year. If you need assistance, please reach out to your chapter mentor or the chapter executive and we will try to assist anyway we can.

Melody de Laat

### SMALL ANIMAL MEDICINE

#### Volunteering for your Chapter

I would like to use this courier contribution to call for volunteers well before the 2021 Chapter AGM. I expressed at the last AGM that I am very keen to set up processes that encourage members to volunteer for roles within the chapter and to have plans in place that leads to an ordered succession. This concept is not new and I know that I have attended many SAM Chapter AGMs in the past that have raised this requirement, particularly when it comes to volunteers to examine Fellowship.

We already have an excellent culture of members volunteering but there must be a better way to fill these positions. A way that perpetually encourages new members to get involved. To do this, new volunteers need to feel supported and not daunted. I believe the best way to do this and to retain organizational and procedural knowledge is to formally set up a progressive rotation within the various committees.

Areas to contribute:

- Chapter Executive
- Subject Standards Committee (SCC)
- Subject Examination Committee (Separated further to Membership and Fellowship level)
- Science Week Convenors
- Mentorship for Membership candidates

## ANZCVS Fellow

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### Chapter Executive

There are three current roles: President, Secretary and Treasurer.

I have previously checked with the College and we can have four positions if required. I brought up the concept of locking in succession plan for these roles at the AGM and had feedback from executives past and present, along with other Chapter members.

It became clear that as President is a more public role, members that would like to volunteer for Secretary or Treasurer position, may have little interest in the role of President and therefore may not volunteer if that was a recruitment criterion. It was also suggested that a one-year term in each position was too short to become both familiar with the role and to be effective in that role with an overwhelming support for each position to be 2

years. I suggest the following structure to ensure retention of organisation knowledge within the executive group, to be supportive for those volunteering and ensure volunteer progression.

- Secretary position is filled for 2 years with that person then progressing to Treasurer position for a further 2 years (ie a total of 4 year commitment with a new Secretary voted in every second year).
- President-Elect position is filled for 1 year with that person progressing to President for 2 years (ie a 3 year commitment with a President Elect voted in every second year to join the President in the second and final year of their presidency)

As we do not currently have a President-Elect, I will propose at the

AGM that I can either stay on as President for 1 more year, with the President-Elect position being filled, or we vote in a new President with intended term for 2 years and I will step into a support role (Vice President) for 2022 to induct the new President in the first year of their term.

A President Elect would then be nominated again in 2023.

### Subject Standards Committee (SCC)

This committee requires a chair and 2 or more additional members. It would be helpful for members of this committee to expect a 3-year commitment; 2 years on the committee and third year as chair before then stepping off, presuming a three-person committee. One new member each year would be required.



### Subject Examination Committee

Finding volunteers to examine Fellowship is often a struggle every year. For candidates and examiners to have the best experience possible, gathering an examination group together that includes experienced examiners is imperative.

It would be ideal for those involved in examining to commit to longer than a one-year role. New volunteers would enter as examiner and in their second year they would progress to senior examiner.

Two senior examiners within the group would then progress to either HSE or Chair. The College suggests in the Subject Committee Handbook (online access available), that the HSE progresses to Chair however this then leads to a four-year commitment for provision of exams presuming an examination committee member started in a junior examiner role.

The main aim is that the committee members in the role of HSE or Chair are experienced. The HSE and Chair roles for the following year would ideally be decided upon at the time of completing exam provision of the current year.

One of the Chair's role is to recruit and set the examination group for the year that they are Chair.

Obviously, the number of required examiners each year will vary depending on the number of candidates for both Fellowship and Membership. here are also issues with conflict of interest or personal circumstances that may lead to changes in the examining group but what I want to avoid is a mass exodus of the group each year and the implications of failing to retain examining talent.

### Science Week Convenors

The SW convener group has worked well as a group of two to three for some years. It would be helpful for



members of this committee to expect a 3-year commitment, 2 years on the committee and third year as Coordinator before then stepping off with one new member required each year or two.

### Mentoring

In addition to the above roles, members can put their name forward to support Membership candidates in their desire to succeed with their learning and examination process.

Presuming not all members will read this contribution, I will be sending it as an email directly to each member also.

We are a large and committed group that can work as a cohesive team without trying to run around last minute and guilt people into filling roles or relying on the same group of volunteers year in and year out until they are potentially broken by their involvement rather than invigorated by it. Let's do this!

I look forward to your feedback and vigorous contribution at the AGM in a few months.

*Kind wishes,  
Fleur James  
SAM Chapter President*

### SMALL RUMINANT CHAPTER

This wet and humid summer on the east coast of Australia has meant massive worm burdens in many sheep flocks and goat herds which has kept members busy doing worm egg counts and giving advice on control options. Unfortunately Covid-19 has meant face to face FAMACHA training stopped but the President has run several courses via Zoom.

This worked well based on the SurveyMonkey feedback although not many participants choose to do the written exam and send in videos of them examining a small ruminant. Hence not many FAMACHA cards were sold. Sales of these cards are the major fundraising activity for the chapter. More Zoom courses are planned. Veterinarians must attend a course before purchasing a card or running courses themselves.

We have a large number of sheep candidates this year but unfortunately no goat candidates. We wish them every success. Examinations are held only every second year. Thank you to those members that volunteers as examiners or for the examination committee.

*Sandra Baxendall*



# ANZCVS

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