

A background image showing a group of students in a classroom. In the foreground, a young woman with red hair and glasses is looking down, holding a green highlighter. Behind her, other students are visible, some looking at their papers and others at a laptop. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a daytime classroom setting.

CollegeCourier

June 2019

PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE

MAINTENANCE
OF CREDENTIALS

SCIENCE WEEK
PREVIEW

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EDITOR'S DESK

We are half-way through the year already and it is a very busy time of the year for the College office. In this issue read more about Science Week, examinations, maintenance of credentials and the College's plans to grow and better engage with and provide more benefits and value for Members.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTIONS

We are always looking for interesting and relevant photos to use within this publication. If you are a budding photographer and would like to submit a photo, please email marketing@anzcvs.org.au We will credit all photos used.

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Dr Wayne Ricketts
Telephone: +64 27 475 9232
Email: wayne.ricketts@vetcouncil.org.nz

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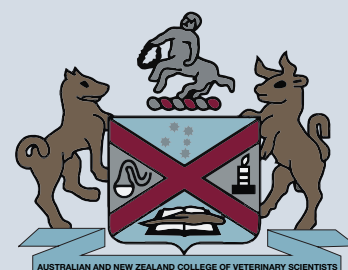
College Manager
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Project Officer
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Marketing, Membership and
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Mrs Thy Boskovic

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➔ PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dr Zoe Lenard, President



The past 12 months have been an energizing and engaging time for the ANZCVS with so much achieved. We have seen growth in exams (both Membership and Fellowship), an indicator that our ability to independently benchmark excellence remains credible and important in our field. The vet profession sees us as a leader in this space with Members and Fellows recognised across the region as professionals of quality.

We continue to look at ways to improve our processes and to better support and reward the large volunteer base that allows the College to deliver quality exams. This is reflected with the strong sense of community that is created through the exam delivery between examiners, Chapter experts and reviewers, observers and of course, candidates and mentors.

Regularly, our examiners comment on how they got so much more from participating in the process than they expected. The College fosters an opportunity for ongoing professional growth in the delivery of exams. I would like to commend the work of the Board of Examiners, headed by Dr Carolyn Guy, in driving this important process.

One of the most exciting aspects of growth and change this year is the new venue for our flagship conference, Science Week. After 18 years at the

QT on the Gold Coast, 2019 sees the SW move to The Star, a much larger venue better able to support our needs.

Conference attendance has been at capacity for several years, and the ability to grow or change has not been possible at our previous location. This year sees us offering more capacity for attendance, more capacity for industry support and an increased capacity to support the evolving high-level scientific program.

These are massive achievements and could not have been attained without the Science Week Committee, comprising Dr Mandy Burrows (Chair), Mrs Thy Boskovic (Marketing and Member engagement), Dr Wendy Goodwin (Scientific convenor) Dr Terry King (Trade convenor) and Ms Sharon Tinsley (Assistant College Manager).

Change is never far away, like it or not, and it seems likely that in 2019 the ANZCVS could face a requirement to change the office location. The Council is actively engaged in working through solutions with the CEO, and keen to maintain principles of sound economic governance that protect our ability to grow in the future. Other projects that we have achieved in 2018-19 include increasing our NZ Membership engagement, developing a platform to allow the Maintenance of Credentials, and working towards electronic assessment in exams (using

computers).

I look forward to catching up with you at Science Week.



➔ CEO REPORT



Since joining the College team earlier this year I have been amazed at both the level and extent of energy, passion, and commitment that exists within the College community. I have been fortunate to witness the examination process this year, observing the examination workshop through to the creation of approved exams and the delivery of the exam process. It is a humbling process to see the impact of our volunteers contributing their time, knowledge and wisdom for the benefit of their respective chapters, the College and Veterinary Science more broadly.

In keeping with the hectic schedule, the finishing touches on Science Week activities are being put in place and it won't be long before the final program is ready for release. With over 700 delegates already registered and a jam packed schedule, everything is on track for the delivery of our best Science Week yet.

I would also like to use this opportunity to extend my thanks to the Executive teams from each of the 25 College Chapters for being so responsive and supportive of the governance updates being undertaken in the lead up to the College and Chapter AGMs. Each incremental step is part of our journey of improving and refining processes to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in the operations of chapters and the College.

Work is also continuing on securing a home for the College office. A rigorous process has been undertaken by the Council appointed working party. A plan has been developed which maps the critical path for the relocation of our operations, along with key milestones, decision making framework and recommendations for proceeding. We are making good progress and expect to see a result towards the end of June. Well in time for our lease expiration at the end of September.

We are also working closely with Finance and Risk Committee (FRC) and continue to work on financial modelling to assist with the review of the College's business models around sponsorship, advertising, Science Week, examinations, and membership fee structure.

Post Science Week we will commence a review of our ICT infrastructure through a strategic process that will ensure that going forward we have a contemporary ICT strategy and structure that aligns to organisational objectives, and one that enables integration of all elements of the business, is scalable, and will meet our needs now and into the foreseeable future.

Preliminary work is also being undertaken on preparations for a refresh of our Strategic Plan and branding to occur in conjunction with our September Council meeting. This work will assist with positioning the College to address the critical issues of sustainability, relevance, growth, and effectiveness. We will keep you posted as we frame the issues and confirm our processes.

Finally, I would like to thank the College administration team for their enduring commitment to the work of the College, and also for their patience and support of me as I have slowly worked into my role and the organisation.

Go well for now and I look forward to seeing you at Science Week.

Cheers
Shane

➔ COLLEGE NEWS



Rachel Tan,
Project Officer



PROJECT OFFICER UPDATE: MARCH 2019

It has been a busy lead up with preparations for Science Week in full swing. Following on from the positive feedback obtained last year, we are continuing to encourage speakers to participate in a voluntary digital recording program at our new conference venue. We are in the process of engaging a number of speakers across a broad range of Chapters whose presentations this year will be recorded and hosted on a dedicated link on the Science Week Website. These recordings will be made available for Member viewing until Science Week 2020.

ELECTRONIC MANAGEMENT OF ASSESSMENT

Preliminary assessment and development of a platform to deliver examinations electronically will commence in October for scheduled introduction in 2021. The current proposal will enable candidates to undertake exams on their own laptop with the provision for practice examinations to ensure familiarity with the process. This is an exciting advancement in the examination process and should improve the experience for candidates, examiners and administrative staff.

MAINTENANCE OF CREDENTIALS (MOC)

An email circular was sent to Members at the end of May containing the draft proposal for the MOC program. There will be an opportunity to comment on the program at the Member Convocation Session at Science Week and any additional feedback is welcome prior to this.

The MOC requirements have been specifically developed with consideration of the breadth of disciplines and professional commitments and lifestyle of our Members. Implementation is scheduled to occur from July 1st 2020 and apply to all new Members and Fellows. Existing Members and Fellows may choose to participate in MOC on a voluntary basis.

INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

The College acknowledges that Fellowship candidates in institutions recognised to have a track record of providing education and training facilities consistent with the requirements of a Fellowship Training Program would benefit from streamlining of the applications process.

As such, the College is working towards documentation which these institutions (universities and private practices) could complete which would "accredit" them as a pre-approved Fellowship Training Program Institution. In addition, this would ensure that all requirements for Fellowship candidates are transparent and aid in review and processing of these applications. Initial trial of accreditation will occur for institutions training Fellows in Small Animal Medicine and Surgery but is scheduled for implementation across applicable subjects.

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

NEWS IN BRIEF

- Council Elections are under way. A voting link has been emailed to financial Members of the College. Please contact the College office if you have not received your voting link.
- A briefing paper has been developed for Members outlining the planning and decision making surrounding the lease or purchase of College office premises. You can view this briefing paper on our website [here](#).
- The Maintenance of Credentials policy document has been released and we invite all Members to view and provide feedback. Please direct comments and feedback to Project Officer, Rachel Tan at po@anzcvs.org.au
- Are you coming to Science Week? There is still time to register - Register online [here](#)

MEMBER BENEFITS AND SUPPORT FOR CANDIDATES

The College continues to investigate expansion of Member benefits and improving the support structure for Candidates. We are delighted to announce a new partnership with Elsevier Australia which entitles all Members 25% off the RRP on all books within the Elsevier Veterinary catalogue.

This discount is applicable to veterinary purchases made through www.elsevierhealth.com.au with use of the unique discount code. It cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Discount code to be entered at checkout:
ANZCVS25
Expiry: 31st May, 2020

25% OFF



➔ NZ REPORT



For the first time, the College hosted a stand at the New Zealand Veterinary Association conference in late May in Wellington, New Zealand. Eight special interest branches conferred together – including sheep and beef, equine, companion animals, epidemiology and animal health, veterinary business, deer, industry and food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity. Over 600 delegates attended the conference. As well as providing general information about the benefits of Council Membership and Fellowship we showcased our two newest membership examinations in general veterinary practice – equine and companion animals. We also presented to the equine branch on the new membership in Veterinary Practice (Equine).

Hosting the stand was part of an initiative of working more collaboratively with other CPD providers which was formally recognised in the New Zealand context, at Council's August 2018 meeting which was held in Auckland, and where we met with NZVA, Massey University and the Veterinary Council of New Zealand.

The NZVA will be hosting a stand at this year's Science Week on the Gold Coast. Be sure to drop by and talk to Lottie Cantley, NZVA's CPD Director and hear about their new continuing professional development pathway NZVA has developed in partnership with Massey University.



AN INITIATIVE OF WORKING MORE COLLABORATIVELY WITH OTHER CPD PROVIDERS WHICH WAS FORMALLY RECOGNISED IN THE NEW ZEALAND CONTEXT...

➔ SCIENCE WEEK PREVIEW



PROGRAM

We have a stellar scientific program on offer again this year with twenty Chapters working hard to put together a program comprised of expert local and international speakers.

Some of the highlights include:

Prof Karin Allenspach
Dr.med.vet. FVH, PhD, Dipl ECVIM-CA, FHEA

Small Animal Internal Medicine

Craig Challen
SC, OAM
Australian technical diver and cave explorer

Dr Eric Ledbetter DVM
Veterinary Ophthalmologist

Dr Bryden Stanley
BVMS, MVetSc, DACVS
Surgery

Dr Giselle Hosgood
BVSc (Hons), MS, PhD, FACVSc, Dipl. ACVS
Surgery

Prof David Argyle
BVMS PhD DECVIM-CA (Oncology) FRSE FRCVS
Veterinary Oncology

Dr Enrico Spugnini
DVM, PhD, DACVIM, DEVCIM
Veterinary Oncology

INDUSTRY EXHIBITION

We are delighted to welcome the largest industry exhibition at Science Week to date, with over 50 exhibitors. A full list of exhibitors is available on the Science Week website. A big thank you to all the returning exhibition who have supported Science Week for many years, and a very warm welcome to the new companies who are joining us this year.



ENTER TO WIN PRIZES



This year delegates have the chance to win some awesome prizes by completing a set of goals and gaining as many points as possible. Delegates will use the Science Week app to scan QR codes for their chance to win. Prizes include:

- 2020 Science Week registration, two nights accommodation plus \$100 food and beverage voucher at The Star, Gold Coast – Thanks to ANZCVS
- \$250 Westfield Gift Card – Thanks to The University of Sydney. University Veterinary Teaching Hospital.
- \$200 Wine Voucher – Thanks to Idexx Laboratories
- \$100 prepaid Mastercard – Thanks to Bova
- \$500 retail credit with any distributor of B.Braun products – Thanks to B. Braun
- 2 x textbooks and a keep cup – Thanks to Hill's Pet Nutrition
- More information on how to enter and win will be available to delegates via the conference app shortly.

NEW

The College has introduced a number of new initiatives to make Science Week 2019 more engaging, valuable and educational. Initiatives include:

CENTRALISED PROCEEDINGS

Conference proceedings will be available to all ANZCVS Members and delegates via email. Proceedings will also be available and connected via the conference app through speaker profiles and the agenda.

PLENARY SESSIONS + OFFICIAL WELCOME AND WELCOME TO COUNTRY

We are pleased to open Science Week with an official welcome from College President, Dr Zoe Lenard and a Welcome to Country delivered by the traditional land owners. A professional plenary delivered by Dr Adam Castricum will then be presented on 'Navigating Emerging Biotechnology interventions in Medical Science'. A second professional plenary is scheduled for Saturday presented by Dr Nadine Hamilton on 'Positive Psychology'.

COLLEGE CONVOCATION

The inaugural College Convocation will be conducted during Science Week at 4pm on Friday 5 July. Submitted convocation questions can be viewed [here](#). We look forward to discussing these questions with Members at the Convocation!

BREAKFAST SESSIONS

Thanks to our breakfast sponsors Hill's Pet Nutrition and ProvetVI and Interpath, we are pleased to present educational breakfast sessions for delegates at Science Week. The sessions are already fully subscribed!

CONFERENCE BAGS + CONFERENCE APP

Each delegate will be receiving an ecofriendly conference bag as a keepsake and to put all their conference materials in. Plus, we are excited to present the first Science Week app. Details on how to download the app will be emailed to all delegates before the conference.



REGISTER TODAY

It's not too late to register! Don't miss out on this cutting edge scientific veterinary conference. Register online [here](#).



ANZCVS
SCIENCE WEEK
2019

ScienceWeek

4 - 6 JULY 2019

Australia and
New Zealand's
**leading cutting edge
veterinary conference**



THE STAR, GOLD COAST

NEW in 2019



New venue, more space, state of the art facilities



Scientific program covering 20 speciality areas



New professional plenaries, pre-conference workshops and member convocation



Dedicated industry space + more industry exhibitions



Mobile app + online program + passport competition



Register now

VETSCIENCEWEEK.COM.AU

➔ RAINBOW VETS

What has more glitter than an Elton John concert, more makeup than the “Married at First Sight” set, and more sequins than a drag queen’s closet? The Sydney Mardi Gras Parade – the largest night time pride parade in the world!

This March a small group of College members including myself, marched with the Australian Rainbow Veterinarians and Allies (ARVA) float. Some of us were wearing re-purposed Elizabethan collars covered with glitter as skirts, others were riding inflatable unicorns. Everyone danced along behind the mobile consulting room float under the theme “Fabulous Pets need Rainbow vets”.

The ARVA float had vets, nurses, family and friends of the profession encompassing every gender, sexuality and age – there was even a baby! We were truly a rainbow of diversity from the veterinary profession.

You might be reading this and wondering, “That’s lovely that you all got dressed up and had fun, but what’s that got to do with the veterinary profession I know?”

Well, when I was younger my dream was to become a veterinarian. But I had another dream. I dreamed that I could become a girl. Young boys could grow up and be vets, but the only young boys that I had heard of that had grown up and become girls worked like Carlotta as show girls or sex workers. Whilst I respect the bravery of those that chose that path I was not able to, so I hid who I really was. At least that way I could fit in and follow my other dream of being a veterinarian.

No one should have to hide who they are or who they love just to fit in. After being true to myself and transitioning gender, I realised that I must not be the only one in the veterinary profession who identified as LGBTQIA. So along with a few like-minded individuals including another College member, we formed the Australian Rainbow Veterinarians and Allies (ARVA).

ARVA provides support and advocacy for LGBTQIA veterinarians and their support teams. We also provide education on gender and sexuality inclusiveness to veterinary organisations and participate in events like pride parades around the country, and the AVA Vet Ball in Sydney.

So, what has ARVA and the Sydney Mardi Gras got to do with ANZCVS and the veterinary profession? Simply put we are a very diverse profession, and diversity produces depth and understanding in all of us. It’s what makes us special and lets us grow. We are also a giving, supportive profession who cares for one another. If each one of us reaches our potential, then we all win.

I welcome you to come and say hello at Science Week where ARVA will have a stall. Have a bit of fun checking out the Elizabethan collars or come and have a confidential chat. ARVA members identify across the LGBTQIA umbrella, so I can assure you that you are not alone.

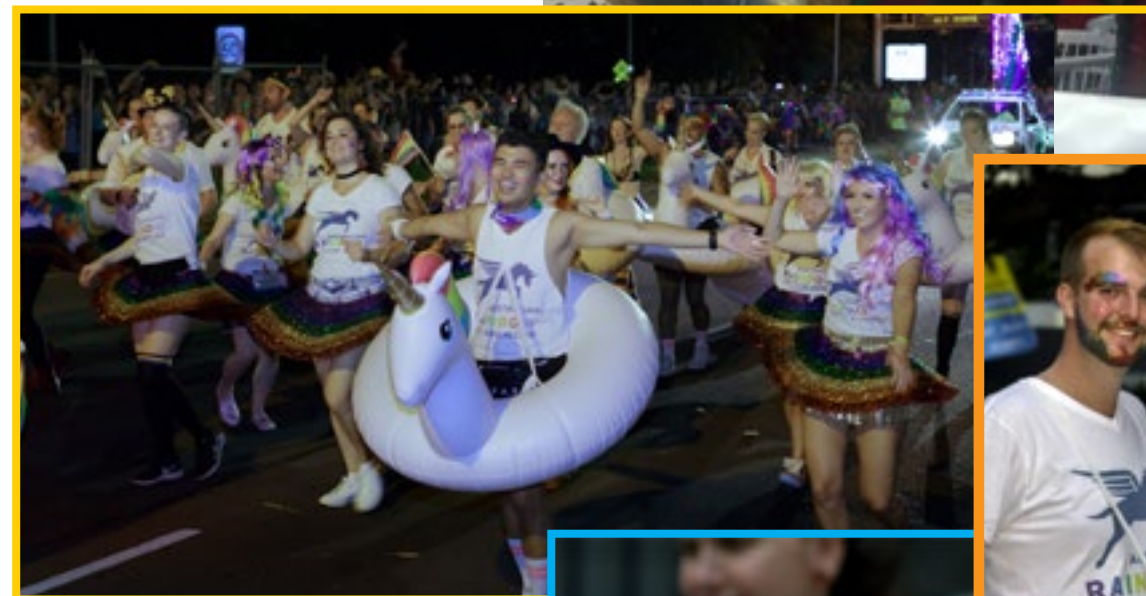
I look forward to catching up with many of you at Science week!

Kate Toyer BVSc MANZCVS (Surg)
President
Australian Rainbow Vets and Allies

Email: ausvetlgbtqi@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ausrainbowvet/>

Kate Toyer on Facebook
Messenger or LinkedIn



**WE ARE ALSO
A GIVING,
SUPPORTIVE
PROFESSION
WHO CARES FOR
ONE ANOTHER.
IF EACH ONE OF
US REACHES OUR
POTENTIAL, THEN
WE ALL WIN.**



➔ AWARDS

In January Animal Welfare Chapter member [Andrew Knight](#) received the prestigious Robert Shomer Ethics Award 2019 from the [Society for Veterinary Medical Ethics](#) in the USA. Dedicated to the memory of Dr Robert Shomer, co-founder and first President of the Society, the award is given to an individual who has made a significant contribution to veterinary medical ethics, and who has a distinguished career as a leader in this field.

Andrew was presented with the award at the VMX 2019 Veterinary Meeting and Expo, one of the world's largest veterinary conferences, in Orlando.

A Murdoch graduate of the class of 2001, Andrew is now Professor of Animal Welfare and Ethics, and Founding Director of the [Centre for Animal Welfare, at the University of Winchester](#) in the UK; an EBVS European and RCVS Veterinary Specialist in Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law; an American and New Zealand Veterinary Specialist in Animal Welfare; a Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, and a Senior Fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy. He has over 65 academic [publications](#) and an extensive series of [YouTube videos](#) and websites on animal welfare and ethics issues,

and speaks regularly at international conferences.

He helped launch the Australian campaign against live animal exports in the mid 1990s, and as a veterinary student campaigned for the introduction of humane alternatives and conscientious objection policies to universities within Australia and abroad. He has repeatedly run for election as a candidate for the UK Animal Welfare political party, last standing against British Prime Minister Theresa May, and feels that if only voters had taken him a bit more seriously, the entire Brexit debacle could have been avoided.

... the award is given to an individual who has made a significant contribution to veterinary medical ethics, and who has a distinguished career as a leader in this field.



➔ CHAPTERS

ANIMAL WELFARE CHAPTER

The Animal Welfare Chapter has a diverse membership from all fields of veterinary science reflecting a wide ranging interest in the ethical use of animals, animal welfare, veterinary professional ethics and the law.

The Chapter is pleased to report that the Fellowship guidelines are under review and there are several candidates interested in Fellowship training.

Membership exams will be held again in 2020. 2018 was a bumper year for candidates with expectations that this will continue to 2020 in line with increasing interest in animal welfare. The Chapter is most appreciative of the support of our mentors and others in helping candidates prepare for their exams.

Science Week is a highlight of the Chapter year and with very many thanks to our Convenor Nita Harding, with assistance from Tanya Stephens and Anne Fawcett, the Welfare Program will once again be outstanding. The Chapter has an interesting and varied scientific program with excellent stand alone sessions and sessions with other Chapters. The Science Week Program is designed to cater for veterinarians across the broad range of interests. It goes without saying that animal welfare is a concern for all veterinarians!

For the first time the Chapter has teamed up with the Pharmacology Chapter for shared sessions on pain relief for routine husbandry procedures, use of ineffective therapies and mastitis

treatment protocols. These sessions will be of great interest as effective pain relief is vitally important and treatments that don't work at all are significant ethical and welfare issue. There will be a session on ineffective therapies aptly titled 'Why believe in magic? The use of ineffective therapies has welfare and ethical implications'.

It is disappointing that Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAVM), which includes Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) continues to be used on animals. Driven not by demand from clients, who by and large have low health literacy, but by practitioners offering these services.

On the Thursday there will be a livestock session on drought and provision of shade and water and a presentation on managing public expectations in the face of social media use followed by a session on dairy calf welfare. The Friday morning session will be on 'what is on the horizon for welfare' with a range of interesting talks, followed by shared sessions with the Medicine and Management of Laboratory Animals Chapter including a talk on 'Chicken hatching in schools: a welfare review'. The afternoon sessions will deal with some 'big picture' issues such as 'Global Animal Welfare: animal welfare and the sustainable development goals'.

Finally, bright and early on Saturday morning the Animal Welfare Chapter has teamed up with the Epidemiology and Public Health Chapters for sessions on a variety of topics such as 'How animal welfare relates to human health and wellbeing'.

All in all another thought provoking, wide ranging and fascinating program

to cater for the interests of all Chapter members and others. The Chapter's program last year earned it a full page spread in the Australian Veterinary Journal!

As Chapter President I was honoured to be invited to the PCVC7 7th Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association in Bangalore, India in March this year and was able to speak about the College and the Animal Welfare Chapter and give a presentation on 'Ethics, Evidence and Animal Welfare'. The Conference was excellent and many congratulations to Animal Welfare Chapter past President Peter Thornber who was the Conference Chair. I was joined at the Conference by the Chapter Secretary Nita Harding who gave a presentation on 'Managing welfare, wellbeing and biosecurity within an animal disease response - the New Zealand experience'.

At the Conference there was a whole day devoted to working equid welfare. This is a significant animal



welfare issue especially in developing countries. The production of ejiao made from donkey skins and used in Traditional Chinese Medicine has had a devastating effect on donkeys and those humans dependent on them for transport and work. It has been estimated that Nigeria could lose its population of 1.5 million donkeys in less than three years if the skin trade is not halted.

Working equids are of great importance to many communities in developing countries where people are dependent on them for transport and work. Unfortunately, the quality of life of a working equid can be very poor, alongside poor quality of life of their carers and owners.

Both equid and owner can be overworked, malnourished and overburdened. This is particularly so in the brick kilns of India and Pakistan. Fortunately there are some outstanding charities working in this field such as the International Coalition for Working Equids, The Donkey Sanctuary, the Brooke and World Horse Welfare.

Following on from last years Science Week Program and sessions on dolphin welfare in captivity, Chapter Treasurer Di Evans has sent this new important information about dolphin welfare.

Animal welfare assessment at dolphin marine park – a first for Australia

Action for Dolphins has teamed up with World Animal Protection to work collaboratively with Dolphin Marine Conservation Park in Coffs Harbour, NSW to undertake a feasibility study for the translocation of the five resident dolphins to a sea pen sanctuary.

As part of the project, world renowned and UK based dolphin welfare researcher, Dr Isabella Clegg has recently been doing assessments to help evaluate the current welfare of the dolphins at the park. There has been a particular focus on personality tests which are believed to help indicate the



potential capacity for dolphins to adapt to a new environment.

This is Dr Clegg's first visit to Australia with the feasibility project likely to benefit greatly from her expertise. The assessment framework being used for the project is the C-Well Index, which was developed as part of Dr Clegg's PhD studies (Clegg et al 2015). It is based on the European Welfare Quality Project and comprises of 58 animal based assessments. Further news of the progress of the project will be released in the near future.

Ref: Clegg ILK, Borger-Turner JL & Eskelinen HC (2015) C-Well: The development of a welfare assessment index for captive bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*). *Animal Welfare*, 24:267-282.

Hoping to see many members and those considering membership at Science Week for an enjoyable and rewarding time.

Tanya Stephens,
President, Animal Welfare Chapter

EPIDEMIOLOGY CHAPTER

The Epidemiology Chapter executive and Science Week convenors have been hard at work to bring you another great Science Week program for 2019. Whether you are an epi-addict or just epi-curious, this year's scientific program promises to deliver something for everyone. In addition to shared sessions with the Veterinary Public

Health and Animal Welfare chapters, the Chapter will host an array of great local and international speakers over five thematic sessions:

- Epidemiology by the people, for the people: whether it is through utilising social sciences methodology, looking at the human cost of animal diseases or bottom-up approaches, people will be the centre of this session
- Surveillance and preparedness: a classic but dynamic area; expect infectious diseases, climate change and country-wide approaches
- The terrible two: in two parts, we are looking at two diseases that are currently in everyone's mind in Australia and New Zealand; Q fever and *Mycoplasma bovis*
- Exotic diseases: our members have also been busy overseas, so foot-and-mouth, avian influenza and others will be there
- Epidemiology when everything else fails: some unusual species and/or diseases, where epidemiology comes to the rescue.

With over 230 members, the Epidemiology Chapter offers a fantastic forum to strengthen your professional network and stay up-to-date with all things epi. College subscriptions are now overdue, so we'd like to take this opportunity to encourage you to renew your membership with the Chapter.

This year the Chapter is holding membership exams, with 21

candidates sitting in 2019. We wish all membership candidates the best of luck with their exams and look forward to welcoming our new members to the Chapter.

We are also excited to announce that the Epidemiology Chapter Annual General Meeting will be held on the Friday afternoon of Science Week, followed by free drinks and nibbles for members and candidates at the Star Casino's Garden Kitchen and Bar. See you all there!

MEDICINE AND MANAGEMENT OF LABORATORY ANIMALS CHAPTER

Activities of the Executive this year have included amending the Chapter constitution to incorporate restrictions on membership to the Chapter as well as updating it with the correct College terminology. Unfortunately this has not as yet been finalised as there is some question of the terminology used for membership criteria. To be discussed at the AGM.

Work has proceeded on the study guidelines for examination candidates in Medicine and Management of Laboratory Animals with thanks to Doctors Pethick, Villaflor and Kingham for their input. The aim was to simplify the guidelines as well as updating them to reflect current industry practice. A draft has been submitted and, at this stage, further modification is required before College approval.

Membership of the MMLA Chapter has grown to 25 and we are optimistic of further growth as the number of

veterinarians employed in laboratory animal medicine and welfare roles is growing – one conservative estimate places the total at over 120 across Australia and New Zealand. Examinations have not been offered for 2019 but there are candidates for 2020. Doctor J Inns and Doctor L Pethick both successfully completed their examinations in MMLA in 2018 and were invited to join the Chapter.

The executive acknowledges the commitment and the work done by Malcolm France, who is standing down as Secretary on the executive committee due to other commitments. Currently there are 12 executive and non-executive roles within the MMLA Chapter, not including mentor roles, and, with a membership of 25 people, some of whom are retiring or changing industry, it is hoped that to keep the Chapter growing that some of the new members will have the enthusiasm to contribute.

Science week

A big thankyou to Malcolm France as Science Week convenor and for assistance by Doctors L Dodemaide, R Wilcox and L Pethick who have created an exciting program.

Collaborative sessions with Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia and Animal Welfare Chapters have broadened the focus of the talks. For the first time sponsorships from industry partners allows for some support for speakers. Hopefully sponsorship packages will be developed further in the future to expand the program and provide funding for invited key-note speakers.

Julie Ferguson
President MMLA



PHARMACOLOGY CHAPTER

Much excitement this year with a brand new venue and a cutting edge, highly collaborative Science Week program. There will be significant opportunity in our program for robust debate and cross pollination of information across Chapters – so don't miss out.

Combined sessions include Animal Welfare, Feline and Small Animal Medicine, Behaviour, Avian and Equine Chapters. A key focus for our Chapter speakers will be to shed light and fresh perspectives on the 'burning' pharmacology topics in clinical practice including;

- Transdermal medication, drug compounding and appetite stimulation pharmacology in cats (feline/SAM combined session)
- Low grade and chronic pain in dogs – what works and where is the evidence? (behaviour combined session)
- Drug residues in backyard poultry and antimicrobial resistance (avian combined session)
- Pharmacology of novel analgesics and practical pharmacology application to mastitis protocols in cattle (animal welfare combined session)
- Pharmacology of laminitis therapy (equine combined session)

We also look forward to robust panel discussions in animal welfare and behaviour – and the privilege of a special feline/small animal medicine panel chaired by Professor Emeritus Boyd Jones – all not to be missed.

On Saturday our focus turns to our future exam candidates – we look forward to meeting you all and your presentations. As a small but dedicated Chapter, you have our full support and encouragement in the journey to membership.

Finally, a big thanks to our Chapter secretary Gail Versluis, Chapter treasurer Richard L'Estrange, examiners and committee members – your dedication and drive for continual improvement in the lead up to Science week has been inspirational and ensures our Chapter goes from strength to strength.

A fantastic Science week on the cards – look forward to seeing you all there!

Liz Shackleton MVB MANZCVS
President, Pharmacology Chapter

SMALL ANIMAL MEDICINE CHAPTER

Hi everyone. We are in the midst of the examination period of the College and Science week is fast approaching. The change in venue will offer a fresh feel for Science week and I would encourage you to attend.

This year in conjunction with the Feline and Radiology chapters there is a pre-conference day on Wednesday 3rd July. We are excited to have Dr William Culp and Dr Carrie Palm from the University of California who will present a day on Interventional Radiology. This is a great opportunity for all to learn the latest advances and treatments that can be done using these techniques. These are becoming more widely available.

Then join us for three days of the main meeting at the Star. This year's program has shared sessions with Anaesthesia and Analgesia, Feline Medicine, Pharmacology, Small Animal Surgery, Veterinary Behaviour and Oncology to give a great program. The international speakers are Professor Karin Allenspach, a world leader in gastrointestinal disease, and Dr Enrico Spugnini, one of the world leaders in electrochemotherapy. They will be joined by our local speakers with cutting edge presentations and abstracts.

You will have received notification of the AGM from the college. We encourage as many as possible to attend as

there is an important discussion on the Chapter constitution as well as the call for members to serve on the executive, as examiners and Chapter committees.

We wish all the candidates in 2019 the best for the examinations and look forward to seeing you all at the bigger and better Science week in July.

Regards
Peter Bennett (President)

VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH CHAPTER

As Science Week 2019 is rapidly approaching, it is opportune to outline the key elements being offered in the Veterinary Public Health Chapter's program over the three days (4-6 July) of this conference. This year's program provides a diverse offering in keeping with the broad subject area coverage of our discipline and, as with last year, includes joint sessions with other Chapters.

Our joint session with the Epidemiology Chapter focuses on the application of genomics in modern veterinary medicine. Dr Barbara Brito Rodriguez, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Institute of Infection, Immunity and Innovation, University of Technology, Sydney and Dr Kim Halpin, Pathology and Pathogenesis Group Leader at the CSIRO Australian Animal Health Laboratory will, respectively, present on applications of metagenomics and on the use of genomic tools for bee disease surveillance. Other speakers in this session will highlight a number of different genomic tools.

A further joint session is being conducted with the Animal Welfare Chapter and will explore aspects of the human/animal bond. This theme should be of interest to a broad range of conference attendees and will include a keynote presentation by

Dr Peter Thornber, the President of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association.

Another theme of the VPH program which will be of broad general interest is that of trans-boundary animal diseases. Prof Dirk Pfeiffer, Chair Professor of One Health at City University, Hong Kong will be speaking on the current major outbreak of African swine fever. We are also pleased that Dr Felix Njeumi, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations' Eradication Program for Peste des Petite Ruminants will be speaking on international efforts for PPR eradication.

The VPH program also explores the theme of VPH training. Speakers include Associate Professor Jenny-Ann Toribio of the University of Sydney Veterinary Faculty, Professor Michael Reichel of the Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine, Hong Kong and Dr Simon Firestone of the University of Melbourne Veterinary Faculty. The speakers will be outlining the approaches of their respective institutions to undergraduate and post-graduate VPH training. The session will include other speakers exploring options for VPH Specialist training and will conclude with a panel discussion facilitated by Dr Allen Petrey.

During the course of Science Week 2019 the Chapter will be conducting its Annual General Meeting (4PM, Thursday 4 July). Amongst other matters, a revised Chapter constitution will be considered for adoption. Attendance at the AGM therefore takes on added importance.

So, in summary, a diverse and stimulating VPH program has been arranged for this year. Our thanks go to our speakers and our program co-ordinators, Kevin Doyle and Sam Hamilton.



IMPORTANT DATES IN 2019

28 June

Voting for Council closes

29 & 30 June

Fellowship Practical/Oral Examinations

29, 30 June & 1 July

Membership Examinations

4, 5 & 6 July

Scientific Meeting

5 July

AGM

6 July

Awards Dinner

SAVE THE DATE

Science Week 2020
9 – 11 July 2020
The Star, Gold Coast



CONTACT US

Building 3
Garden City Office Park
2404 Logan Road
EIGHT MILE PLAINS QLD 4113

Telephone: 07 3423 2016
Fax: 07 3423 2977
Email: cm@anzcvcs.org.au

www.anzcvcs.org.au

