

ANZCVS

March 2024 edition

College **Courier**





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NEW ZEALAND CONTACT

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COLLEGE MERCH

Polo Shirts \$30

Vests \$60

Note: All prices are in AU\$ and include GST.
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Contact the college office

on (07) 3423 2016 or via

email at:

admin@anzcvs.org.au

Editor's Note

They say time and tide wait for no one – and it certainly feels that way in the College cycle. It feels like just yesterday we were congratulating new Members and Fellows, now we're already looking at finalising 2024's examinations, and while all that's happening – Science Week Convenors are busy putting together engaging and stimulating Programs. Speaking of which, we have listened to

your SW23 feedback and changed the Friday Conference Dinner to a second Happy Hour session, allowing more time for socialising with colleagues and Chapter members.

Be sure to check out the Chapter Reports for updates on recent and upcoming news and events.

Courier Editor's Team!



CEO REPORT

This year, the College has a record-breaking number of over 400 Veterinarians scheduled to take examinations in 23 Membership Subjects and 8 Fellowship Subjects. This achievement is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our members. Their efforts to inspire fellow veterinarians to join our community and pursue advanced certifications have been instrumental in this success.

The February workshops in Melbourne were exciting, with each room full of discussion as members honed their examination development skills and engaged with new and existing colleagues. The feedback received has been fantastic, and the College aims to create a sustainable model to ensure this level of engagement and in-person interaction are provided to examination teams each year.

Enthusiasm is the only requirement to become a future contributor to your chapter's examinations. Please consider joining your colleagues in advancing the Veterinary profession.



Registrations for Vet Science Week 2024 are now open, with scientific sessions from 20 Chapters on the program. Remember to register before the end of April to take advantage of the early bird discounts.

Stephen Alderman, CEO

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

David Tabrett, President



“Life is a game, boy. Life is a game that one plays according to the rules.”

The Catcher in the Rye. J.D. Salinger

It wasn't that long ago that our world appeared to abide by the oft-quoted words from Mr Spencer to Holden Caulfield. And then times changed, as they do, and we experienced technological and socio-political changes that have redefined our environments. It seemed things shifted towards “chaos”, knocking us out of our “simple” patterns, where the unknown unknowns were ignored or minimised. (Apologies to any purists as I mash Johari and Cynefin models.)

Perhaps a more apt take is to adopt an infinite game model, written about by Simon Sinek, where we focus on a longer perspective, mindful of our purpose, living by our values, and embracing the change rather than resisting the environmental forces about us.

Whilst these models* are directed at individuals, or in Sinek's case towards businesses, we can also see the adoption of a longer purpose driven mindset within our College framework.

A piece of feedback well heard at Council and the Board of Examiners is asking “how can we make examinations sustainable?”

As a core business function for the College, adopting a longer perspective requires not just a mind shift but also structural and procedural changes to bring about sustainable examinations. Under Council's direction, the College has embarked upon providing structural support for current examiners in the Examiner's Workshop, run over a weekend in early February in Melbourne. Concurrently, and with the support of educational assessment leaders from Australian Council for Educational Research, the Board of Examiners, with Chief Examiner, Dr Jen Carter, and Councillor, Dr Cathy Beck, took a large cohort through the

development of writing robust multiple-choice questions, one part of a larger project under the Examination Evolution and Support umbrella.

Both workshops have provided plenty of content and context for increasing current and future years' examination cycles to address our changing environment, while striving to pursue excellence in veterinary science in Australasia.

As our year progresses, and by the time this Courier is published, examination drafts have been submitted to a stringent 6-step review process, we cast an eye towards the events in June for examinations. My thanks to all the examinations teams for their work, you are inspiring! I enjoyed meeting many of you in Melbourne, even if I didn't understand the content of your topics. (I'm looking at you, Equine Dental Memberships examiners!) To candidates who prepare to share their knowledge and critical understanding of their specific topics; you have worked diligently, and we want to see you succeed as you challenge yourselves.

Council is active in governance through the Chapter budget process, now finalised. There are many tasks ahead in the next few months as we lead up to the AGM, to be held at Vet Science Week 24th – 27th July 2024. I hope to see many of you there, at the Gold Coast for our premier educational event.

David Tabrett, President

* “All models are wrong; but some are useful”
George E.P. Box



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EXAMINATIONS REPORT

**Dr Jennifer Carter,
Chief Examiner**



As we enter this new year, I want to thank all of our College office staff, Council members, Board of Examiners members, and examiners and observers for their incredible contributions to the College examinations process. We have hit the ground running in 2024 preparing for another large cohort of membership examinations and examining teams are busily working on their exams.

The weekend of 3-4 February marked an exciting milestone in the College examinations process with not only the return to an in person Examiner's workshop but additionally a multiple choice question writing workshop facilitated by partners from the Australian Council for Educational Research. The Melbourne-based weekend kicked off with a joint presentation from Neville Chiavaroli (ACER) on writing high-quality multiple-choice questions. The examiners workshop allowed teams from across many subjects to meet and collaborate with direct assistance available on the day from Board of Examiners members. Overall examining teams were very well organised and left the weekend with strong drafts of both written papers. The MCQ workshop asked participants to arrive with a minimum of 10 questions written for their subject guidelines and worked through subject matter expert and peer review over the weekend, resulting in a strong beginning to a College bank of multiple choice questions. In addition to all of the examinations business of the weekend, attendees enjoyed a joint dinner together – a lovely social experience

for our College community. I would like to personally thank all the attendees at both workshops for their diligent efforts in making the weekend a true success. I would also, of course, be remiss in not thanking the College staff who attended (Stephen, Mary Anne, Jenny, and Rachel), the Board of Examiners members and additional Council members in attendance for their support and contributions.

I'd like to commend all the hard work of our examining teams and I am confident that this will be a great year! I'd also like to extend my best wishes to all of our Membership and Fellowship candidates who are hard at work preparing to sit their exams!

Jennifer Carter, Chief Examiner





NOMINATIONS



BOARD OF EXAMINERS (BoE)

The Board of Examiners is seeking new Members or Fellows of the College to join the Board of Examiners.

In order to join the Board, you must have previously served as an examiner for the College, and have an interest in examinations, assessment, education and the College generally. Expertise in assessment practice and/ or managing training programs is highly desirable.

Interested persons must be available for Board of Examiners meetings, the Examiners Workshop in February annually and examination duties during the examination period, and must be enthusiastic and willing to contribute to Board activities. Successful applicants will be selected by Council following recommendation made by the BoE. It is desirable that within the Board there be representation from a wide breadth of subject backgrounds and working experiences, a mixture of Members and Fellows, a gender balance, and some representation from New Zealand.

Board of Examiners members join either the Training and Credentials Committee or the Examinations Committee. They are expected to attend College examinations to act as observers during the examinations, and attend Board meetings. These are currently held via Zoom, however there are usually two face-to-face meetings, in addition to videoconference

meetings as required during the year. BoE members should be able to devote at least five-seven hours per week to duties associated with the Board of Examiners. They are valuable members of a progressive and dynamic team, ably supported by College staff.

For further information please contact the Examinations Team. A link to the application form can be found [here](#). Completed application forms should be forwarded to the College office by email or post by Tuesday **30 April 2024**.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, download and complete application form online [here](#). Completed application forms should be forwarded to the College office by email or post by Tuesday 30 April 2024.

For further information please contact the Examinations Team at: examinations@anzcvs.org.au or phone (07) 3423 2016.

PROJECT OFFICER REPORT

Dr Rachel Tan, Project Officer



Vet Science Week 25-27 July 2024

We are looking forward to seeing you all as Vet Science Week returns to the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre (GCCEC). There are 20 Chapters confirmed to present a program this year with a preliminary program soon available. [Early bird registration](#) is now open with \$300 off 3-day Member registration prices.



**ANZCVS
VET SCIENCE WEEK
2024**

Registration Type	Early Bird Rate	Standard Rate
3 Day Member Registration	\$1000.00	\$1300.00
2 Day Member Registration	\$795.00	\$995.00
1 Day Member Registration	\$450.00	\$550.00

In addition to the 3-day program, the popular pre-conference workshops will be running again. This year we have workshops scheduled for: Feline Chapter, Surgery Chapter Members Day, Surgery Chapter Specialist Day, VSMR Chapter and Veterinary Behaviour. Three other workshops are also in planning. Further details will be released as we confirm program and registration costs.

We are looking forward to a great program as we return to this venue. The social events have also been revamped in response to delegate feedback. This year there will be 2 Happy Hour events included in the registration price. The Welcome Reception and Poster Program at

5:30pm on the Thursday will include drinks and a grazing station in the Poster Presenter area. On Friday at 5:30pm the Conference Happy Hour with complimentary refreshments will be an opportunity to catch up with Colleagues and Network. Chapter organised dinners will be scheduled after the Friday Happy Hour.

Saturday night will continue to be the formal Awards and Testamur presentation but at a new off-site venue ([The Island](#)) with reduced dinner ticket prices compared to previous years.

The Science Week website has been updated and we look forward to bringing you more information on the conference and associated pre-conference workshops on Wednesday 24 July. If you have any questions or have industry contacts interested in sponsorship, please contact Dr Rachel Tan at po@anzcvs.org.au or refer to the [website](#) for exhibition information.

Multiple Choice Question Workshop (February 2024)

Thanks to all the Members who volunteered for the MCQ workshop in February at the [Novotel Preston](#) in North Melbourne. We had a fantastic response with delegates from 24 subjects represented. The workshop was designed to educate and share concepts in writing multiple choice questions that test higher order thinking for both Membership and Fellowship examination. Both novice and experienced question writers participated in the workshop with a total of 627 questions being reviewed over the weekend.

The workshop was part of the EES (Examination Evolution and Support) project whose objectives include promotion of certification systems that have a high degree of integrity and validity. As a component of this, the development of a MCQ bank and increased use of MCQs within

examinations will improve the sustainability of examinations by reducing workload on examiners annually.

Continued recruitment of MCQ writers independent to examination teams to expand the MCQ bank will be an important ongoing process. Further workshops are planned within Science Week 2024. Please keep an eye out on these opportunities in upcoming email and social media communications.

If you have any questions on Science Week, MCQ writing or any of the other College projects, please contact Dr Rachel Tan at po@anzcvs.org.au.



THANK
YOU!





ANZCVS
VET SCIENCE WEEK
2024

VET SCIENCE WEEK 2024



25-27 TH



8-5
AM PM



**Gold Coast Convention &
Exhibition Centre**

Join us and our 20 Chapters
holding sessions this year at
the GCCEC

Registration coming soon at
www.vetscienceweek.com.au

PARTICIPATING CHAPTERS

Animal Welfare
Aquatic Animal Health
Cattle
Emergency and Critical Care
Epidemiology
Feline
Medicine & Management of
Laboratory Animals
Ophthalmology
Pathobiology
Radiology
Small Animal Medicine
Small Animal Surgery
Veterinary Anaesthesia &
Analgesia
Veterinary Behaviour
Veterinary Dentistry
Veterinary Oncology
Veterinary Practice
(Small Animal)
Veterinary Public Health
Veterinary Sports Medicine
and Rehabilitation
Zoo and Wildlife



SCIENCE WEEK 2024 EVENING



ANZCVS
VET SCIENCE WEEK
2024

PROGRAM

Welcome Reception & Poster Program

Thursday evening

- Welcome for Exhibition and Delegates
- Poster Display and Authors Welcome
- Complimentary Refreshments and Networking

Conference Happy Hour / Chapter Dinners

Friday evening

- Conference Happy Hour: Complimentary Refreshments and Networking
- Chapter Dinners to follow Happy Hour

ANZCVS Awards Dinner

Saturday evening

- Formal Dinner
- Membership and Fellowship Testamurs
- College Awards

25-27 July 2024



NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR COLLEGE AWARDS

The Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists is calling for nominations for the College Awards for 2024.

The **College Prize** will be awarded to a veterinarian who has made an outstanding practical contribution to veterinary science or practice in Australia or New Zealand without the support of an academic environment. The Awards Committee will consider the applicability of the contribution in the broad field of veterinary science.

The **Ian Clunies Ross Memorial Award** recognises high academic and/or research accomplishment. It will be awarded to an Australian or New Zealand veterinarian making an outstanding contribution to veterinary science in the preceding five years.

The **Meritorious Service Award** will be presented to reward a Member or Fellow of the College, who has consistently and tirelessly contributed to the College through voluntary service at Chapter or higher level.

The **Most Commendable Paper in an International Journal** will be awarded to highlight the international scientific contribution that members of the College make to the veterinary community. This award will be specifically aimed at journal articles that provide insight to the pathogenesis of a disease condition, or substantially alter the treatment or prevention of disease.

The **Membership Travel Grant** is to reward a newly active member of the College who is not enrolled in a formal residency training program to attend an international veterinary conference or event that will be of benefit to the both the individual, as well as the Chapter to which they belong.

**The closing date for College Award nominations is
31 March 2024.**

Nominations should comply with the relevant criteria (available on the website <https://www.anzcv.org.au/awards/>), and should be forwarded to the College office at the above address. For assistance, please contact Dr Glenn Edwards, Chair of the College Awards Committee, by directing your enquiry through the College office.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - COLLEGE COUNCIL

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 Amy Lane has indicated that she will stand for re-election to Council. Dr Lane has sat on Council since 2018 and has served as Honorary Secretary (2019-2021) and President of the College (2021-2023). She is also actively involved in a number of subcommittees including the Examination Evolution and Support Committee and has championed the continued move to a more strategic Council.

Dr Glenn Edwards has indicated he will not be standing for re-election to Council this year. Dr Edwards has been on the College Council since 2021, has served on the Finance and Risk Committee and is currently the Awards Committee Chair for 2024. He has been a thorough and reliable Councillor, proving sage and impartial guidance throughout his term on Council – an excellent advocate for the members of the College. Heartfelt thanks to Dr Glenn Edwards for his time on Council.

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](#).

As a member of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists, you are encouraged to vote in the 2024 Council election. Council, as the Board of Directors of the College, manages the 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 **2 June 2024**



AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SCIENTISTS

MANDATORY INTENTION TO SIT DATE FOR FELLOWSHIP CANDIDATES

**Closing date to register intention to sit for
Fellowship examinations in 2025:**

30 JUNE 2024

No applications will be accepted after this date.

Fellowship Candidates wishing to sit Fellowship examinations in 2025 should note that it is mandatory to register their intention to sit with the College office before **30 June 2024**.

NO applications to sit the Fellowship examinations will be accepted after this date. Candidates who register an intention to sit, but do not comply with current credential guidelines will be able to withdraw their application before the 31 October.

Please note that the Credentials date of **31st October** remains the same, and at this time all requirements outlined in the training guidelines must be completed.

AUTO-RENEWALS

Make renewing your College subscription even easier every year. Opt-in to auto-renew your subscription before 15 March, 2024 for this year's payment.

To opt-in for auto-renewal:

1. Log in to your Member portal on the [College Website](#).
2. Selecte 'Sign up or edit recurring payments'
3. Complete the form

Your subscription will be auto-deducted on 20 March 2024. A receipt will automatically be emailed to you once the payment is made.



INCREASED EMAIL SCAM ACTIVITY

Please be advised we have noticed and received feedback from Members of increased email scam activity, with scammers sending "urgent" and "requests for payment" emails pretending to be a College member.

The sender can use the same logo, similar email addresses or also "spoo" a legitimate email address of an organisation to make the scam appear more real.

See example below of an email that was received:

There is a due invoice that needs to go out for upcoming events.

Are you available to carry out the payment?

I can't do much right now because I am on transit, but I can forward a copy of the invoice to you.

Best Regards,

If you receive a suspicious email, even if it appears to come from someone you recognise, stop and think. Give the sender a call and check if they sent you the email. If it is a scam, report the email as spam/phishing/junk via your email provider and then delete.

CHAPTER REPORTS



ANIMAL WELFARE

Our Science Week program is shaping up really well! We have a diverse range of great topics and speakers including a couple of interesting aquatic topics – a review of the current debate regarding sentience in fish and other aquatic species and the latest method for euthanasing stranded cetaceans. We are also delighted to have Prof Siobhan Mullan, University of Dublin speaking on assessing welfare of Thoroughbreds, as well as other great topics. The joint sessions with Veterinary Behaviour also promise to be engaging and informative including a framework for ethical animal training practices. Staying with ethics, Dr Anne Quain will be facilitating an ethics round workshop – definitely not to be missed. Special thanks go to Dr Michelle Clatworthy, our wonderful Science Week Convenor!

Our Chapter has achieved a first in February through members, Assoc Prof Susan Hazel and Dr Shari Cohen for attending the MCQ workshop and compiling (with help from several other Chapter members) a healthy bank of MCQs. This is a big step for our Chapter as we look to the future.

A call will be made this month for nominees for the 2024 David Bayvel Award. Chapter members can nominate any veterinarian who has made a significant contribution to animal welfare science, policy, ethics, law and advocacy, in honour of Dr David Bayvel who was committed and passionate for our profession to lead advances and improvements in the welfare of animals.

Dr Di Evans, President

AVIAN HEALTH

Acknowledgement and Congratulations

We are delighted to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Michelle Sutherland, our newest avian Fellow, for successfully passing her fellowship examinations. Michelle's dedication and hard work has paid off and we are proud to welcome her as an Avian Fellow.

Fellowship Examination Bank Initiative

In our continuous efforts to enhance the efficiency of our fellowship examination process, we are pleased to announce the establishment of a Fellowship Examination Bank. Spearheaded by Dr. Melinda Cowan and Dr. Hamish Baron, this initiative aims to streamline the examination process and alleviate the workload on fellowship examiners. The rollout of this program is scheduled for later this year, and we anticipate its positive impact on the examination process.

Transition towards Multi-choice Examination Questions

As part of our ongoing commitment to modernize and improve our examination methods, we are moving towards incorporating multi-choice examination questions for a portion of the avian membership and fellowship examinations. To facilitate this transition, we are planning a workshop in collaboration with the ANZCVS, potentially associated with the UPAV and AAVAC conferences in Canberra later this year. Interested individuals are encouraged to reach out to Dr. Hamish Baron for further information (hamish@unusualpetvets.com.au).

Upcoming Webinar: Raptor Medicine and Vets' Role in Conservation

We are excited to announce an upcoming webinar featuring Dr. Panayiotis (Panos) Azmanis, scheduled for Wednesday, March 27th, at 7pm AEST. Dr. Azmanis is a renowned raptor/avian and wildlife veterinarian, currently serving in Dubai Falcon Hospital & Wadi Al Safa Wildlife Center, Dubai, UAE. His extensive experience in raptor medicine and conservation promises valuable insights for all attendees. The webinar link will be provided via email.

NEW FELLOW

Michelle Sutherland

(Avian Medicine and Surgery)

Michelle graduated from the University of Edinburgh in 2009 and moved to Australia in 2012, having worked in mixed, small animal, and exotics clinics. She undertook an Avian Medicine and Surgery residency at Burwood Bird and Animal Hospital, Melbourne, and now works at the Unusual Pet Vets Peninsula Clinic.

In 2014, Michelle became a Member of the Avian Medicine and Surgery chapter of the ANZCVS, achieved the RCVS Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice in Zoological Medicine (Cert AVP Zoo Med) in 2015, and has held Diplomate status of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP) in the Avian Speciality since 2019. She has been involved in examining for the College at the Membership level for several years, and is also on the examination committee of the ABVP.

Michelle's professional interests include avian viral diversity, avian reproduction, and behaviour.



Chapters continued ...

EPIDEMIOLOGY

As we prepare for Science Week 2024, we are proud to announce the cooperative efforts of the Epidemiology and Veterinary Public Health (VPH) Chapters in organising shared sessions with two production animal chapters. We are looking forward to exploring the “Zoonotic Challenges of Cattle” and the “Zoonotic Challenges of Pigs”, addressing critical issues at the intersection of animal and human health.

We are thrilled to announce a third shared session, featuring the innovative theme “Novel Technologies to Better Understand Disease and Zoonoses”, in collaboration with the Pathobiology Chapter. This session will showcase cutting-edge technologies that are revolutionising our disease diagnosis, prevention, and management approach, offering fresh insights and promising solutions.

As we finalise the program, we encourage you to stay tuned for further details, including

the announcement of the preliminary program in April.

If you have any queries or require further information about Science Week 2024, please don't hesitate to reach out to the following convenors:

- Brent Jones and Tiffany O'Connor (Epidemiology Science Week Convenor) at swconvenorepi@anzcvs.org.au
- Allen Petrey (VPH Science Week Convenor) at swconvenorvph@anzcvs.org.au

We are also seeking additional volunteers to join our dedicated team of Science Week convenors. We encourage you to consider volunteering for this rewarding role. Volunteers serving as Science Week convenors will be eligible for discounted registration to attend the conference as a token of appreciation for their invaluable contributions. This is a unique



opportunity to actively shape the program and contribute to the success of Science Week 2024. If interested, please reach out to swconvenorepi@anzcvs.org.au for more information on how to get involved.

ISVEE Update

On behalf of the College, the Epidemiology Chapter is hosting the 17th International Symposium on Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics (ISVEE17) in Sydney, 11-15 November 2024. Planning is now picking up pace. A call for abstracts has been made and has just closed, with >700 abstracts submitted. We have also made a call for bursary applications from lower and middle income countries, and have announced applications for three prestigious ISVEE awards. The conference will be held at the International Conference Centre, Darling Harbour, with social events at Darling Harbour, Campbell's Cove and the CBD. The review of submitted abstracts and creating of an outstanding scientific program is currently underway. We plan to present 6 pre-conference and 3 post conference workshops, 1 to 5 days in duration.

The Local Organising Committee is being led by Michael Ward (Chair), Marta Hernandez-Jover (Co-Chair) and Simon Firestone (Treasurer) and consists of 4 subcommittees: Scientific Program (Mark Stevenson and Anke Wiethoelter), Social Program (Jane Heller and Charles Caraguel), Workshops (Victoria Brookes and Jennifer Manyweathers) and Sponsorship (Peter Black and Skye Fruean). All of these chairs and co-chairs are College members. Please check out our website for all the information (<https://isvee17.com.au>). This is a wonderful opportunity for all College members to get a taste of world class veterinary epidemiology and economics in their own backyard.



EQUINE

The Equine Chapter Executive Committee hope you have all had a wonderful start to 2024. This year is exciting for the Equine Chapter as we will collaborate with the EVA and deliver our Equine Vet Science Week sessions during the Bain Fallon Memorial Lectures from July 21-24.

The dates for Vet Science Week and Bain Fallon coincide this year, and after lengthy consideration of different options, we decided to approach the EVA about a collaboration. Rather than running the two programmes simultaneously in different locations, this is an opportunity to provide delegates with an exceptional experience with additional streams now offered at Bain Fallon. We have two excellent international speakers, Professor Roger Smith and Associate Professor Rose Nolen-Walston, and an exciting lineup of domestic speakers. Full programme details will be released very soon!

This is also a chance for delegates to connect with many other colleagues and people who may not often attend Science Week. The Equine Chapter executive committee will prioritise connecting with as many delegates as possible during the conference so please come and see us as your feedback and ideas concerning the Chapter are appreciated. We

Chapters continued ...

hope this will be an opportunity to speak with EVA members who may not know a lot about the college and Science Week. We will be happy to answer any questions people have regarding membership and fellowship examinations and any other College related questions.

The combined Bain Fallon Memorial Lectures and Equine Vet Science Week will be held from Sunday 21st to Thursday 25th July at the Rydges Resort Hunter Valley in Lovedale, NSW. We hope to see a lot of you there!

The Equine Chapter is offering membership examinations in Surgery of Horses this year and we wish all candidates the best of luck in their preparations. We would also like to thank the examiners and other members and fellows who have helped in the preparations for the exam. We appreciate all your time and hard work.

In 2025, membership examinations in Medicine of Horses and Equine Practice will be offered. Please encourage your colleagues to consider taking these exams. If you have the capacity to provide mentorship to a candidate or if you are willing to be an examiner, please let us know. The University of Queensland runs journal clubs in equine medicine and surgery on Monday mornings 9-10am Brisbane time on zoom. Candidates, members, specialists and practitioners are most welcome to join. (Please contact allison.stewart@uq.edu.au).

Stay tuned for more exciting updates regarding the Equine Vet Science Week 2024 programme being presented at Bain Fallon.

Thank you to everyone on the Equine Chapter Executive Committee for all your hard work in preparing for Equine Vet Science Week this year. We look forward to catching up with as many of you as possible In July!



FELINE

This month the Feline Chapter says goodbye to one of our beloved members, Dr Lyric Sas. Dr Lyric Sas recently passed away and one of our members, Dr Ildiko Plaganyi, has shared this tribute to her.

Vale - Dr Lyric Sas (Dr Tamara Targo-Bailey) 1978-2023

Our lovely friend and colleague Lyric passed away on 12/12/2023 after a living a full life and choosing her own path.

Lyric was born as Tamara, and grew up in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne as well as spending a lot of time in the Healesville countryside, where she developed a strong love of animals and decided from an early age that she wanted to be a vet.

She graduated from Melbourne University Vet School in 2001 with impressive academic skills. However she had a wide range of other interests outside the veterinary field, from skydiving to fishkeeping to crazy tattoos to camping and the great outdoors. Friends were amazed by her musical skills, her ability to play the piano and compose music as well as sing. And of course she had a passion for cats, horses and owned an albino python. She didn't mind if you called her wacky – I think she took it as a compliment.

Lyric worked in private practices as well as for a pharmaceutical company. Her passion for feline medicine led her to

obtain a membership qualification in feline medicine, she was also an examiner in this Chapter for the ANZCVS in 2010. To top her over-achiever status, she also obtained an MBA a few years later.

Lyric was an academic mentor for feline memberships, and made topics like acid: base balance and the pathophysiology of FIP appear easy to comprehend for her mentees.

She could easily summarise complex problems including world events like the war in Ukraine – she had that type of intellect.

Hence it was an incredible misfortune that at the age of 36 she was diagnosed with a brain tumour and given 5 years to live. She exceeded this prognosis by living for another 4 years – and trying to fit as much into her world as possible.

Lyric travelled widely around Australia, Europe and ticked off some big bucket list items like the Galapagos islands. She did volunteer work for Zoos Victoria and worked as a volunteer guide for the St Kilda Penguin colony.

Lyric was a beautiful, caring, spiritual person who followed her own path in her unique life. Friends spoke of her compassion and how she invited a homeless person to share dinner with her family.

Her bravery shone through when she spoke at a conference about having a terminal illness.

Lyric leaves behind a grieving family and a diverse range of friends whose lives she managed to enrich in countless ways.

Dr Ildiko Plaganyi BVSc MACVS

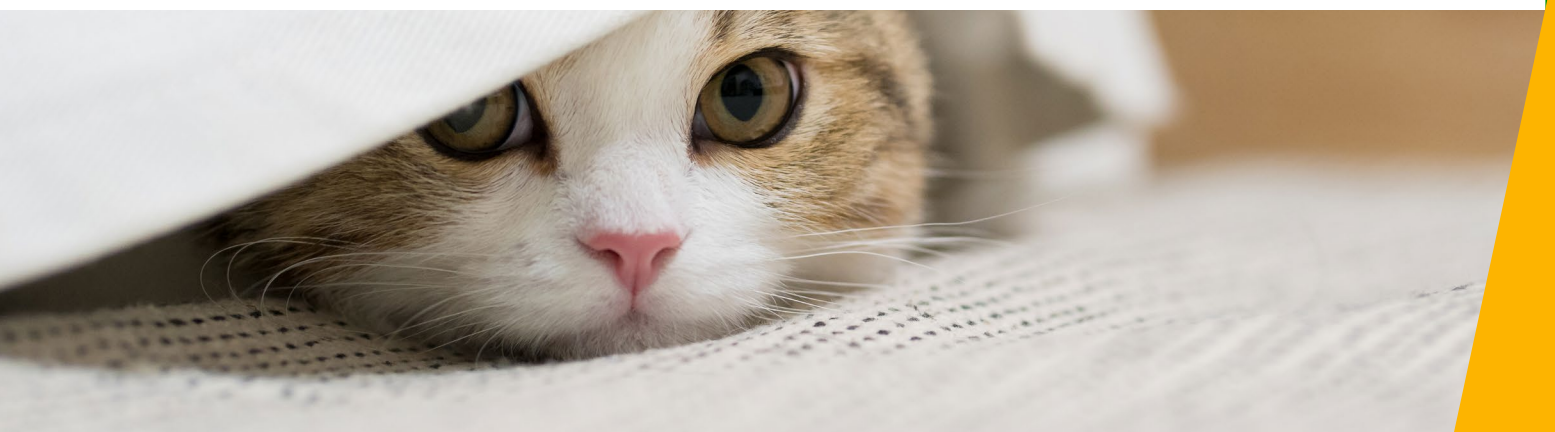
MEDICINE & MANAGEMENT OF LABORATORY ANIMALS

Greetings everyone! I hope the beginning of the year has been kind to you all. This is usually a busy time with new projects and people starting, so we'll will keep this short and sweet.

- We've had two very successful Journal Club meetings. Meeting recordings will be sent out via email in the coming weeks. The next Journal Club meeting will be held on Friday April 19. Invites with specific details will be sent out a month in advance with reminders sent out about a week prior. We welcome any ideas for discussion!
- The Science Week program is coming along nicely, and we will have speakers on both Thursday and Friday of the conference. We hope to secure an International Speaker this year, along with several others contributing from around Australia. Stay tuned!

Take care everyone and we hope to see you virtually at Journal Club or at Science Week, or both!

**Cheers,
Emily Barrick
Chapter President**



Chapters continued ...

ONCOLOGY

The subject examinations committee (Drs Liz Morgan, Claire Cannon, and Spela Bavcar) are working hard on developing the 2024 Fellowship examination. Special thanks to Liz for her incredible work leading up to the examiners workshop held in February in Melbourne, and to all of the Chapter members who contributed draft questions for the exam, which has made the process much more efficient and the workshop very productive!

The multiple choice question development workshop was held concurrently with the examiners workshop and attended by Drs Laura Brockley, Amy Lane, and Sonya Yu, working to start development of a sustainable MCQ bank for use in future examinations. Thanks to Laura, Amy, and Sonya for their hard work on this.

Preparations for Science Week are underway, thanks to our convenors Johanna Todd and Sandra Nguyen.

OPHTHALMOLOGY

The Ophthalmology Chapter is looking forward to getting together several times this year with an exciting Science Week program, and our Interim Meeting.

For Science Week 2024, we will be combining streams with Pathobiology for an Ophthalmic Pathology focus. We have the fabulous and highly experienced Dr Christina McCowan, a specialist pathologist with a special interest

in ophthalmic pathology as our keynote speaker. We are very much looking forward to this, as it will be terrific for anyone with a special interest in pathology or ophthalmology, and for residents studying for boards/fellowship exams.

Then, later in the year, we have our Interim Meeting in Manly, Sydney 14th-16th October 2024, with Dr Gus Aguirre as our guest speaker. Further details to follow.

We are also delighted to announce that the Ophthalmology Chapter Memorial Research Grant has been approved by the College. The grant will be AU\$4000, aimed at aiding in research projects in ophthalmology for residents or interns. Please discuss the grant with your residents and interns and encourage them to make an application. Applications are due on 31st March 2024. For more information please contact secretaryophthalmology@anzcvs.org.au or our grant administrator Edith Hampson e.hampson@uq.edu.au and we can send you out the Information Pack for Applicants.

We have 4 candidates sitting the ophthalmology fellowship exams in 2024. Many thanks to our examination committee for all their hard work preparing the exams, we really appreciate it!

**With Regards,
Matt & Sarah
Ophthalmology Chapter Secretaries**

SMALL ANIMAL MEDICINE

Dear Members,

I hope you all had a pleasant break and were able to spend some time with family and friends over the Christmas and New Year period.

The Chapter Exec has been hard at work planning many exciting, new opportunities for members.

- We have the Cardiology Barossa Valley weekend coming up on 22nd-24th March at the Novotel. I am so excited for everyone to come together and connect, learn and share ideas. I've always believed we are stronger together and events like this build so much more than knowledge. There are still tickets left for anyone interested. We have a dinner scheduled on Friday evening, free for all attendees. So come along, drink, eat, laugh, and learn. What happens in the Barossa, stays in the Barossa.
- We have some keen residents who have been working extremely hard to organise the Residents Forum. The dates are locked in for 16th-17th March. Sydney destination. More information to come on this so keep an eye out in your emails. Remember the Chapter is in full support of these learning opportunities and we have dedicated finances to support those travelling from afar.
- Keep an eye out for the next online CE event to come soon.
- We will also be opening applications soon for the next round of scholarships for the Chapter members. There are 2 on offer to provide financial support to members. Make sure you apply.

So much excitement ahead for the Chapter, and I'm so thrilled we can bring these opportunities to you, our members. Remember this is the time of year when many soon-to-be members and residents are buckling down to study. It's a tough time leading up to exams and I just want to wish you all luck. Thank you for dedicating your time and energy to studying and improving yourself to become the best possible veterinarian you can be. Thank you also to all those who are examining and supporting the examination process. It requires an enormous amount of sacrifice of time and energy to be an examiner and the chapter appreciates your support!

Stay safe, keep learning and keep saving those animals, guys!

**See you all soon
Your President,
Luke Johnston**



Chapters continued ...

SURGERY

The Small Animal Surgery Chapter has some exciting news in regards to Science Week 2024. This year we have amazing speakers on the theme of soft tissue surgery, and we will again be offering our preliminary days - Members Day and Specialists/Resident Day on the Wednesday.

We have an incredible international speaker, Dr Nicole Buote, from Cornell University, New York. Dr Buote has interest in soft tissue surgery including wound management, trauma and hepatobiliary surgery as well as minimally invasive surgery including robotics! She is also a wealth of knowledge in terms of gender-based research studying differences in career path, promotion and mentorship in veterinary surgery and will speak on this in the main programme. She is the founder and president of the Association of Women Veterinary Surgeons.

We are also lucky enough to have a second inspiring surgeon previously from Cornell, Kansas State and Wisconsin Universities in the USA - Dr Julia Sumner. Dr Sumner also has an interest in minimally invasive surgery and interventional endoscopy. She has over 30 publications.

The final programme is just being finalised and should be released shortly - watch this space! If you have an interest in soft tissue surgery, this is the 'Science Week' for you.

Dr Abbie Tipler
President

VETERINARY BEHAVIOUR

Online Seminars:

Thanks again to Dr Kersti Seksel for her presentation on "Sleep & the Role it Plays in Physical & Mental Health of Patients" in February. It was most insightful, and we will be paying more attention to our patients' sleep and the tools we have available for evaluating it. Our next seminar will be presented by Dr Jacqui Ley on "The First 18 Weeks - Developmental Effects from the Prenatal Phase to Adoption" on Wed 24th of April at 7pm (AEST).

Science Week 2024:

Drs Melanie Rockman and Bronwyn Sharman have put together a fantastic programme for 2024. Save the date for the 25th-27th of July 2024 at the Gold Coast Conference and Exhibition Centre. I encourage you to check the [website](#) to find out more and book your registration.

Mentors for Membership Candidates and Delta Institute Students:

Thank you to all the members and specialists who regularly support our Chapter Membership mentees and Delta students. Your time and energy are truly appreciated.

HONORARY FELLOW



Dr Daniel Lewis

The College is pleased to announce that Professor Daniel Lewis was recently awarded Honorary Fellowship of the College. Prof Lewis was presented with his testamur at the recent Veterinary Orthopaedic Society meeting by Dr Stephen Fearnside, past Surgical Chapter President. Also in attendance were the following Fellows of the Surgical Chapter ANZCVS - Dr Kim Smith, Dr Sarah Goldsmid and Dr David Hall.

Professor Lewis has an outstanding academic and clinical career that spans many decades. He has contributed to countless research projects and publications in the field of veterinary surgery. His relationship in Australia dates to 1987 when he commenced a 2-year tenure as a surgical registrar at the University of Sydney Veterinary Teaching Hospital, returning in 1992 as a visiting scholar.

He has continued his great relationship with the veterinary surgical community in Australia and New Zealand ever since. This is no more exemplified than in his

contribution to the ANZCVS, in particular to the Small Animal Surgery Chapter, which continues to the current day. He has acted as an examiner and speaker on numerous occasions, as well as supporting residents in training through a long-standing programme of externships at the University of Florida. His willingness to support the Surgery Chapter is unparalleled outside of Australia and New Zealand. It has also helped develop so many relationships for our Chapter and College with the international veterinary community.

Congratulations, Professor Daniel Lewis!

Photos below of Professor Lewis receiving his award at the Veterinary Orthopaedic Society (VOS) conference in February 2024 where he was also honoured with a VOS lifetime achievement.



Chapters continued ...

VETERINARY PRACTICE SMALL ANIMAL

Across the Chapter membership, the summer months have been busy ones in practice. The usual summer greetings of snakes bites and tick paralysis cases have kept practitioners on their toes. Brachycephalics continue to make their presence known, with their peculiar needs on the dermatological and neurological fronts, as well as surgical airway interventions to improve their day-to-day welfare.

The summer has also been a busy one for the Veterinary Practice Small Animal Chapter. Angela Hodgson has been busily preparing our Science Week offerings, and has a great raft of speakers and topics on all things neonates. The examinations team has been busily blue-printing, drafting and editing the examination papers in readiness for our biggest cohort of examination candidates yet. Examinations are on track for finalisation.

The entire Chapter is looking forward to Science Week as an opportunity to network with colleagues, to welcome successful candidates, and to relish in the CPD offerings.

Please reach out to make contact if you have Chapter matters to discuss, or want to partake in Chapter proceedings in any way.

Dr Georgia Ladmore
President

VETERINARY SPORTS MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

The Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Chapter has a robust agenda for SW 2024 including an exciting pre-conference workshop (Wednesday 24 July) on diagnostic musculoskeletal ultrasound. Dr. Julia Tomlinson BVSc MS PhD DACVS DACVSMR CCRP CVSMT will lead the course with Drs. Kara Amstutz DVM DACVSMR CVPP CVA CCRT, Patsy Mich DVM MS DACVSMR DACVAA DABVP CCRT, and Ah Young Kim DVM MS DACVSMR CVA CCRT assisting. Places will be strictly limited, so register early to ensure you have a spot.

Dr. Tomlinson will be our keynote speaker, and Drs. Amstutz, Mich, Kim and others will be presenting lectures during the conference as well. Our theme this year is diagnosis and treatment of musculotendinous and developmental orthopaedic diseases in young animals from a veterinary rehabilitation and sports medicine perspective, and we will be running lectures in conjunction with both the Veterinary Anaesthesia & Analgesia and Small Animal Practice Chapters over the Thursday & Friday. We've got some exciting lecture topics planned & look forward to seeing everyone there again this year!

Are you interested in adding acupuncture to your practice? The esteemed Canine Rehabilitation Institute will be bringing their successful acupuncture certification to Australia soon. Please contact us at SecretaryVSMR@anzcv.org.au or PresidentVSMR@anzcv.org.au to

express your interest in attending so that we can add you to the contact list. Seats will be limited for this program, so don't delay!

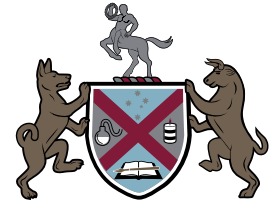
Would you like to become a Member of the VSMR Chapter? We will be hosting our second Equine examination in June 2025. Contact us for more information.

Members of the VSMR Chapter: Are you interested in pursuing Board Certification through the American College of Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation (www.anzcvms.org.au/chapters/VSMR). Opportunities exist for completing the residency program without having to leave Australia for extended periods of time. Contact us for more information! (PresidentVSMR@anzcvms.org.au)

We wish all College members well as we head into an exciting 2024 and we look forward to seeing everyone at Science Week.

**Kind regards,
Dr. Janet Van Dyke,
Secretary VSMR Chapter**





ANZCVS 2024 KEY DATES

- 8 Mar** ○ Call for Council Nominations
Call for Board of Examiners Nominations
- 30 Apr** ○ Board of Examiners Nominations close
- 2 Jun** ○ Council Nominations close
- 4 Jun** ○ Membership Written Examinations
Fellowship Written Examinations (Paper 1)
- 5 Jun** ○ Fellowship Written Examinations (Paper 2)
- 6 Jun** ○ Membership Practical Examinations
(applicable subjects only)
- 9 Jun** ○ Voting for Council opens
- 22 Jun** ○ Fellowship Practical Examinations
- 23 Jun** ○ Fellowship Oral Examinations
- 29 Jun - 1 Jul** ○ Membership Oral Examinations
- 6-7 Jul** ○ Membership Oral Examinations
(Medicine of Cats UK only)
- 14 Jul** ○ Voting for Council closes
- 24 Jul** ○ Pre-Conference Workshops
- 25-27 Jul** ○ Vet Science Week
- 26 Jul** ○ College AGM
- 27 Jul** ○ Awards Dinner



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