

Faculty of Veterinary Science

r u m e n a t i o n s

The volunteer efforts of more than two hundred and fifty veterinary students and staff ensured the continuing success of the vets@work Open Day, smashing last year's dog wash record along the way.

The Open Day, held on Saturday 31 August to coincide with the University of Sydney Courses and Careers Day, drew around 3,000 members of the general public (and their pets). Media celebrities ABC Radio 702 Sydney's Simon Marnie and Channel Nine Animal Hospital presenter Lochie Daddo worked the lams entertainment stage, year 4 veterinary students provided pet health checks to almost two hundred pets in the Sydney clinic, and teams of students operated six mobile dog wash units to shampoo an incredible 290 dogs.



Mr Lochie Daddo, host of Animal Hospital (Channel 9) with the pet of one of our Open Day visitors.

The Open Day, an event created to raise awareness of the Faculty, Veterinary Science Foundation and the Sydney University Veterinary Centre, followed a week-long visit by Professor Lonnie King, Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan State University, USA, culminating in his presentation of the Fort Dodge J D Stewart Address. The vets@work 2002 program showcased the Faculty in other ways, with the inaugural Intervet Research in Action and the annual Trade Fair for vets@work 2002 sponsors.

Research in Action, sponsored by Intervet Australia and chaired by Professor Richard Whittington, featured twelve Faculty staff and students presenting diverse research papers on small and large animal and wildlife projects.

On Tuesday 27 August Professor King became only the second veterinarian to address the National Press Club in Canberra. During his visit, he also met with members of the Federal Government Rural Veterinary Review Taskforce, key Federal politicians and with industry

groups including Animal Health Australia and Agriculture Fisheries and Forests Australia to discuss issues such as exotic disease surveillance and preparedness, and the role of veterinarians in public health.

Professor King's visit was supported by a University of Sydney Good Neighbour Grant. The vets@work 2002 committee members were year 1 students Susan Gottlieb, Sarah Whiteford, Ashley Wright-Hands, year 2 student Kathryn Adams, year 3 representatives Sandra Barnard, Louise Baker, Eloise Koelmeyer and John Thirlwell, from year 4 Sarah Davis and Jo Rheinberger, clinic Open Day coordinator Leonie Beadman, Veterinary Science Foundation staff Jennie Churchill and Denise Popovic, media consultant Libby Greig.

Our vets@work Sponsors

The Veterinary Science Foundation secured sponsorship to support all the activities of vets@work, and the Foundation and Faculty gratefully acknowledge the generous support of Fort Dodge, Intervet Australia, Abbott, Bayer, Iams, Apex Laboratories, Nestle Purina, Uncle Bens, AVA NSW, Hesta Superfund, Jurox, Provet, The Veterinarian, Novogen and Guild Insurance. Sponsors participated in the Trade Fair, supported the Vet Ball, and returned for the Open Day, joined by WIRES, the NSW Ferret Welfare Society, Pacofino alpacas and llamas, the Rabbit Fanciers Society NSW, RSPCA, Australian Herpetological Society, FATS (Frog and Tadpole Society), and the Greyhound Adoption Program.



Fort Dodge sponsored the 2002 J D Stewart Address delivered by Professor Lonnie King. From left Mr John Heath (Fort Dodge), Professor Lonnie King, Mr Rob Barclay (Fort Dodge) and Professor Reuben Rose.



Sydney's original snake man, Mr John Cann gives an interactive demonstration of reptile care and handling to the Open Day audience.

From the Dean's Desk

The Faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Sydney is Australia's longest continuously functioning veterinary school and has produced outstanding graduates based in practices, research institutes and veterinary schools around the world, creating strong linkages particularly in the United Kingdom, Singapore and Hong Kong.

To foster these linkages, during July and August I visited the Deans of the English Veterinary Schools (Bristol, London, Cambridge and Liverpool), met with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and with colleagues in Singapore. The visits were crucial to understanding many of the issues affecting veterinary science in the UK, particularly with the release of major reviews on the 2001 foot and mouth disease (FMD) outbreak and the subsequent focus on the training of students in farm animal health.

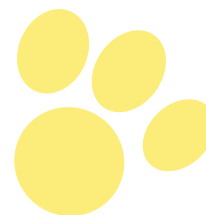
Our recent appointments in farm animal health and production are positioning our veterinary school for the future and for training graduates who can work in a wide range of areas. In discussing curriculum changes with UK Deans, it is also clear that our curriculum in Professional Practice is unique in dealing with many of the emerging issues facing the veterinary profession. Our Faculty's international links also extend to a large number of research collaborations in the UK, Europe, SE Asia and North America. These links and our international student body are enabling us to participate in the globalisation of veterinary medicine.

Staff News

- Congratulations to Associate Professor Andrew Dart, the new Director of the University Veterinary Centre Camden
- Dr Jan Williamson is Practice Coordinator of the University Veterinary Centre Sydney
- Dr Merran Govendir has been appointed Lecturer in Veterinary Pharmacology
- Dr Robert Ratcliffe has been appointed Associate Professor in Veterinary Clinical Practice
- Dr Imke Tammen is the Faculty's Sesqui Lecturer in Animal Biotechnology
- Mr David Hanney is the new IT Support Officer at Camden



Students shampooed approximately 290 dogs at the 2002 Open Day.



Friday Seminar Series

- 13 September** – Dr Glenn Shea, Chasing lizards: herpetological surveys in western NSW, 1pm VSCC
- 18 September** – Dr Jacqui Norris, Feline infectious peritonitis - hot cats that can't kick the coronavirus, 1pm VSCC
- 27 September and 4 October** - Playing of the Temple Grandin Video in 2 parts, Cattle behaviour, facility design and ways to reduce stress on animals, McMaster Seminar Room.

Contact Postdoctoral Fellow Nerida Gallagher (N.Gallagher@staff.usyd.edu.au) for further information.

Contact the newsletter team on email vsf@vetsci.usyd.edu.au, or phone Jennie Churchill, Director of the VSF on 9351 8024, or Denise Popovic, VSF Communications Coordinator on 9351 8026.