

# r u m e n a t i o n s

Welcome to our new audience - veterinarians, many from the Faculty's Partner Practice Program, and donors, sponsors, benefactors and friends. Rumenations is expanding its reach from Faculty staff and students to provide a monthly email update to our valued professional colleagues and supporters who so generously contribute to the Veterinary Science Foundation and the Faculty of Veterinary Science.

## wildlife centre funding announcement

More than one hundred people attended a media launch on 5 February at the Faculty's Camden Campus to hear Deputy Prime Minister John Anderson formally announce almost \$2.2 million in federal funding for the establishment of a Wildlife Health and Conservation Centre. The funding was secured by the Veterinary Science Foundation through the Campbelltown-Camden Sustainable Regions Programme.

Environmental writer James Woodford, author of the Whitley-award winning Secret Life of Wombats, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Beryl Hesketh, and Pat Farmer, Member for Macarthur, also spoke at the launch. Attendees included representatives from a large number of national and state conservation and environmental organisations, veterinarians, the AVA, community wildlife carer groups such as WIRES and Sydney Metropolitan Wildlife Services, and members of Camden and Campbelltown Councils, business and community groups.

The multi-faceted Centre will encompass undergraduate, post graduate and community education, research, and the provision of wildlife services. Acting Dean Professor Paul Canfield said, "Given the enormous wildlife knowledge and experience that already exists within the veterinary profession, the Faculty will be seeking involvement of veterinarians, as well as community carers and relevant research and conservation organisations. Partnerships will be critical to the Centre's development and success".



Professor Chis Maxwell with The Hon John Anderson MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport and Regional Services

## fundraising appeal to alumni



Construction of Stage 1, the Valentine Charlton Cat Centre and new reception, teaching and diagnostic facilities, is on schedule for completion by September 2004.

Many Faculty staff, alumni and other members of the veterinary profession will have received a letter from the Veterinary Science Foundation in support of our current fundraising appeal for the redevelopment of the University Veterinary Centre at Sydney (UVCS). The Foundation is very grateful to the members of the profession and Faculty staff who have already responded so generously to the appeal.

Stage 1 is underway (to be completed September 2004) and the Foundation is now focused on fundraising for Stage 2, which will encompass world class facilities for our canine patients. The UVCS redevelopment is critical to the Faculty's bid to achieve American Veterinary Medical Association Accreditation, and to providing the best possible resources for teaching and veterinary clinical care.

Please contact Jennie Churchill at the Foundation on (02) 9351 8024 if you would like further information about this important fundraising appeal (email [jenniec@vetsci.usyd.edu.au](mailto:jenniec@vetsci.usyd.edu.au)). We welcome all donations.

**Every gift to the Veterinary Science Foundation is tax deductible.**

## from the dean's desk

This year will bring fresh challenges for the Faculty, but I am confident we have the will and the expertise to face and conquer these challenges. While the Faculty has significant momentum towards fulfilling its strategic goals, we must remain focused on implementation and consolidation, ensuring our new Dean will take his place in a Faculty full of optimism and enthusiasm.

Some of our 2004 challenges include embedding the final year of the new curriculum and maintaining strong relationships with our partner practices. We need to continue to effectively plan for development on the Camden campus, including the new Wildlife Health and Conservation Centre, and we must complete the first stage of redevelopment of the University Veterinary Centre at Sydney and plan for Stage 2. And we need to continue our planning for the 2005 - 2009 Faculty Strategic Plan.

I am confident the Faculty's culture of shared leadership will ensure 2004 will be a year of positive and significant outcomes.

*Professor Paul Canfield, Acting Dean*

## new appointments

The following **new academic and general staff** appointments have been made to the Faculty:

### In Sydney:

**Dr Lucinda Blair**, Clinical Veterinary Registrar in Small Animal Primary Care; **Dr Geoffrey Dutton**, Lecturer in Veterinary Anatomy; **Dr Damien Higgins**, Associate Lecturer; Post Doctoral Fellows **Drs Michelle Power and Deborah Taylor**; and Technical Officers **Nicole Carter and Belinda Kew**.

### In Camden:

**Dr Patricia Holyoake**, Senior Lecturer in Intensive Animal Health; **Dr Jeffrey Downing**, Lecturer in Animal Science; **Dr Michelle Lephert**, Veterinary Intern in Clinical Pathology; **Dr Kate Patterson**, Veterinary Intern in Small Animals; Veterinary Interns **Drs Andrea Gabites and Jamie Wearn**; **Dr Robert Pottie**, Veterinary Registrar in Anaesthesia (Fellowship Trainee); **Dr Ron Newman**, ARC Linkage Postdoctoral Fellow; **Dr Sandy McClintock**, Senior Research Fellow; **Mr Russell Bush**, part-time research assistant; **Ms Rhonda McDonald**, receptionist and administrative assistant.

## our sponsors

BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM has joined CSL Animal Health and Bayer Australia as a



major sponsor of the Canine Desexing Clinic at Camden. Boehringer Ingelheim has been providing in-kind product since the inception of the Clinic, and the company has extended this support to an annual cash sponsorship.

The cash and in-kind product sponsorship of all three companies is providing significant operational support to ensure the continuation of this highly successful and innovative surgical program.

PFIZER AUSTRALIA is also providing important support for veterinary students through an annual cash sponsorship that has enabled the purchase of



an ultrasound machine and the establishment of an ultrasound education program conducted by Associate Professor John House, Director of the Bovine Clinical Unit at Camden.

## staff and student news

**Acting Dean Professor Paul Canfield** has been awarded a Doctor of Veterinary Science, acknowledging his outstanding achievements in wildlife research.

PhD student **Ziang Qian** won the 2003 Meat & Livestock Australia Student Prize for her presentation at the Nutrition Society of Australia. NSA prizes are awarded for the best poster and oral presentation to student members presenting their first papers.

**Mr Chris Stimson** is now undertaking Camden Campus IT Support. He is based in the Shute Building and can be contacted on [chriss@camden.usyd.edu.au](mailto:chriss@camden.usyd.edu.au).

**Ms Irene van Ekris** has been appointed Co-ordinator, Faculty Education Services - the senior support role to the Faculty's Teaching and Learning program.

**We want your feedback and contributions. Contact the newsletter team on email [vsf@vetsci.usyd.edu.au](mailto:vsf@vetsci.usyd.edu.au), phone Jennie Churchill, Director of the VSF on 9351 8024, or Zara Gosson, VSF Project Coordinator, on 9351 8026.**