

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

## J D Stewart Address 2005

Sponsored by Cenvet



from left to right: Professor Whittington, Dean Professor Jeffcott and Cenvet Managing Director, Mr Lionel Bloom

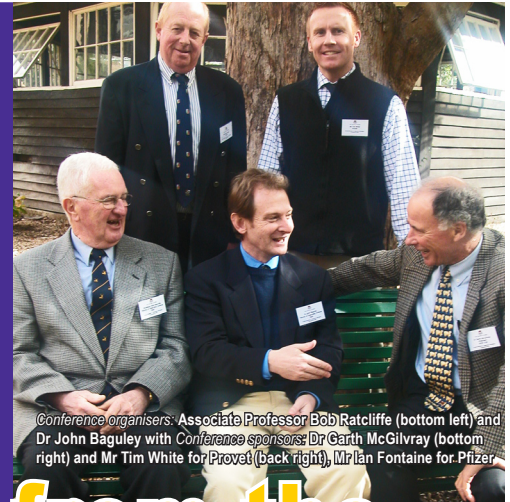
‘What is the veterinary profession doing now and what are we going to do in the future?’ These were questions posed by speaker Professor Richard Whittington to guests at the 2005 J D Stewart Address: Global Veterinary Defence – new roles for vets in public health, food safety, emerging diseases and bioterrorism.

Professor Whittington used three case studies of emerging disease to demonstrate how diseases in animals affect human health, quarantine, food production, the environment and a country’s economy; and highlighted the many potential areas of work available to qualified veterinarians in these fields. He emphasised that society may only see the top 20% of activities that veterinarians undertake because the profession does not promote itself adequately. With more graduates entering the profession each year it is becoming even more important they explore the many different career paths available and promote their achievements and activities to more effectively influence policy makers. “We must continue to develop the veterinary undergraduate curriculum to include areas such as communication and management so we can increase our graduates’ skill base beyond the clinical. The Faculty’s Veterinary Public Health Management postgraduate program is currently unique in the profession, and it aims to build non-technical skills to complement the technical”, he said.

Professor Whittington highlighted the need for the profession to take more prominent roles in multidisciplinary teams, such as those in the Australian Biosecurity Cooperative Research Centre where industry and Universities are bringing together people from many disciplines to develop new technology for surveillance in animal health. He also encouraged interdisciplinary collaboration across professions to produce networks able to provide solutions to societal threats such as epidemics. He described a new initiative called the Interdisciplinary Network in Public Health where the Faculty of Veterinary Science has approached the medical fraternity to set up regular liaison focused on both human and animal health.

Professor Whittington acknowledged the progress the Faculty was making in addressing these issues by continuously developing its curriculum and approaches to both undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. He also acknowledged the generous and ongoing support of Meat and Livestock Australia, Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and the McGarvie Smith Institute for their roles in helping the Faculty to grow and in providing longterm support for the profession.

Please contact us at vsf@vetsci.usyd.edu.au, if you would like to receive an edited transcript of Professor Richard Whittington’s presentation by email.



Conference organisers: Associate Professor Bob Ratcliffe (bottom left) and Dr John Baguley with Conference sponsors: Dr Garth McGilvray (bottom right) and Mr Tim White for Provet (back right), Mr Ian Fontaine for Pfizer.

## from the dean's desk



### Provet Partners in Veterinary Education Conference 2005

A significant highlight in my July diary was the Annual 2-day Partners in Veterinary Education Conference held in the Veterinary Science Conference Centre 15-16 July. This is the third annual conference and we were, once more, most grateful to PROVET for their major sponsorship of the meeting, and to Pfizer for their support. As on previous occasions the proceedings were a mixture of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and extramural training with valuable feedback from the partner practitioners. The home team led by Professor Graeme Allan presented a series of up-to-the-minute imaging lectures supplemented by talks on feline medicine and canine surgery. Professor Graham Felletti led the sessions with partner practitioners on ways of improving and assessing the learning experience for student interns.

The atmosphere of the conference was extremely positive and the Faculty was keen to acknowledge the valuable contribution made by the partner practices to the final year curriculum. A new feature of the program, the Companion Animal Practitioner in Residence, was launched at the conference, thanks to sponsorship from Cenvet. The only sad aspect of the weekend was the need to farewell Associate Professor Bob Ratcliffe, the leading light of the Partners in Veterinary Education program since its inception. Bob is retiring after more than 20 years service with the University. He will be sorely missed but not forgotten and hopefully will put in a cameo performance next year.

Dean, Professor Leo Jeffcott



Dr Mark Glyde with Mr Gerard Marcus, Thyne Reid Teaching Innovations Unit (left) and postgraduate student, Ms Susan Pell

## international teaching and learning collaboration

Dr Mark Glyde, an alumnus of the Faculty currently based at the Department of Veterinary Surgery at the University of Dublin, recently visited the Faculty and its Thyne Reid Innovations Unit to talk to staff about developments in enquiry-based learning and curriculum development.

A Small Animal Orthopaedic Specialist, Dr Glyde is also a lecturer and through this role has developed an interest in new developments in teaching and learning. At the University of Dublin, lecturers develop their own web-based materials and Dr Glyde was very impressed with the Faculty's dedication to the development of online study through the Thyne Reid Innovations Unit, and the assistance it provides to staff in creating resources, organising information and providing easy access for students.

Dr Glyde is part of a Teaching Skills Interest Group at Dublin, an initiative set up to encourage structured development of teaching and learning in his Faculty. The University of Sydney is his last institutional visit in a trip covering a number of US campuses, including Davis and Cornell. He considered the Faculty of Veterinary Science at Sydney to be as advanced as these US institutions.

## surgical team update

In August, Small Animal Orthopaedic Surgeon Professor Ken Johnson will be visiting the University Veterinary Centre Sydney. A graduate of the University of Sydney he now works for Ohio State University. He has a worldwide reputation in small animal orthopaedics and research, and will bring new skills to the Centre; he will also provide clinical instruction for undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Professor Johnson is a Fellow of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists and a Diplomate of both the American and European Colleges of Veterinary Surgery. He is also a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, the Veterinary Orthopaedic Society and the European Society for Veterinary Orthopaedics and Traumatology.



new lecturer

Dr Pietro Celi joins the Faculty as a lecturer in Ruminant Production and Health and a unit coordinator for Animal Husbandry. From Italy, Dr Celi worked for the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Basilicata where he taught Domestic Animal Physiology. He previously studied in Australia undertaking his PhD in Perth.

'I am looking forward to working in the Faculty developing the curriculum and undertaking research in the area of ruminant production and reproduction' said Dr Celi. Based at Camden, Dr Celi replaces Dr David McNeill.

Dr Richard Malik (right) has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Science (DVSc) by the University of Sydney. He dedicated his thesis to the memory of his mentor, the late Dr Daria Love, a former Faculty staff member and highly respected veterinary anaerobic microbiologist.

His thesis, 'Diagnosis, prevention and treatment of diseases in companion animals, with special reference to inherited diseases and infections caused by the Cryptococcus neoformans complex, nontuberculous mycobacteria and environmental saprophytic organisms' represents 15 years of research work in the Faculty. Dr Malik, who works for the Post Graduate Foundation in Veterinary Science, will formally receive his degree at the Faculty's Graduation Ceremony on 16 December.

## DVSc award



Dr Daria Love

## College of Veterinary Scientist results

The following staff members successfully passed their membership exams to join the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists in their chosen fields:

- Dr Lucy Blair (Small Animal Medicine)
- Dr Arie Ende (Small Animal Medicine)
- Dr Keiren Maddern (Anaesthesia)
- Dr Robert Pottie (Anaesthesia)