



Left to right: Dr Paul Arthur (Director of the Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute of NSW DPI), Professor Les Copeland (Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources), Mr Geoff Corrigan (Member for Camden), Professor Beryl Hesketh (Pro-Vice Chancellor, The University of Sydney), The Hon Ian MacDonald MLC (The NSW Minister for Natural Resources, Primary Industries and Mineral Resources), Professor Leo Jeffcott (Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Science), Mr Barry Buffier (Director General, Department of Primary Industries)

The new Centre will work across the three facilities in Camden and Cobbitty linked by high-speed broadband to the Greater Sydney IT network - ensuring speedy access to the specialised supercomputing, genomics and proteomics services so critical for advanced biotechnology.

Teams will work together on developing and applying new technologies for diagnosis, surveillance, prevention and control of serious pests and diseases.

Key research areas for the Centre include:

- Research and rapid diagnosis technologies for diseases such as Avian Influenza, West Nile Virus, and Newcastle Disease.
- Projects on food-borne pathogens such as E. coli and Salmonella.
- The development of new vaccines and diagnostic tests to help control viral diseases in pigs and other livestock.
- Further research into QX disease in Sydney rock oysters and Nodavirus in Australian Bass and Barramundi.
- Research to help minimise incursions of exotic pests and diseases in horticulture and cereal crops, such as fire blight in apples and pears, the papaya fruit fly, citrus canker, black sigatoka in bananas and wheat rust.

The Faculty of Veterinary Science, with the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, has joined forces with NSW Government's Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute (EMAI), in the new NSW Centre for Animal and Plant Biosecurity.

Announced on March 24 by the Minister for Primary Industries, Ian Macdonald, this partnership will see 400 agricultural and veterinary researchers working on a range of key projects.

"Biosecurity has become increasingly important in recent years, as our agricultural industries look to protect themselves from a range of potential animal and plant diseases," Mr Macdonald explained.



Dr Elissa Kadar (Hill's Pet Nutrition) with prize winner, Katrina Stewart



2005 BVSc Dean's List recipients

## Student Prize Ceremony

The Faculty's 2005 student prize ceremony was held on March 31. These annual awards are presented to outstanding undergraduate students in the different fields of veterinary science and this year for the first time, the ceremony acknowledged students from the Faculty's new degree, the Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience.

2005 inaugural presentations included a prize for Veterinary Conservation Biology, sponsored by Powerhouse Logistics, and a Meat and Livestock Australia award for proficiency in the Animal Welfare Science essay with a focus on cattle welfare. The Veterinary Science Foundation also presented its new PhD Excellence Award.

Hill's Pet Nutrition provided the Veterinary Nutrition Advocate Prize. Offered to veterinary students nationally, University of Sydney student Katrina Stewart achieved the highest mark on completion of the Nutritional Advisor Program.

A full list of the 2005 prizes and their recipients is attached.



Mr Peter Brueckner (CEO Powerhouse Logistics) with Veterinary Conservation Biology prize recipient, Natalie Adby



In recent months I have undertaken a number of visits to meet some of our partner practitioners - the veterinarians who take our students for their final year rotations and electives. Last November it was a pleasure to meet and speak to practitioners, with Associate Professor Bob Ratcliffe and Dr John Baguley, at a dinner organised by the Shoalhaven AVA President, Neal Johnson. In February, Professor David Hodgson and I travelled to Canberra to visit 10 practices in the program and viewed the excellent new Canberra Emergency Centre for small animals. I was extremely impressed by all those I met, and by the friendly atmospheres and excellent facilities, and the generous support given to our student interns. I have found these visits to be a crucial part of the Partners in Veterinary Education program and have more planned in 2006.

Another important part of the program is the opportunity to invite practitioners to the Faculty for our annual Partners in Veterinary Education Conference. This year the conference will be held on Thursday 6 and Friday 7 July, and ProVet have again generously agreed to be the major sponsor of the event. The 2006 presentations will showcase Faculty staff knowledge and research, and we will also include interactive and breakout sessions as in previous years to enable practitioners to provide input. I am confident it will be another very successful meeting and we warmly invite all our Partner Practitioners to attend.

The Faculty is collaborating in a new three year project to establish 'A blueprint for sustainable small holder pig production in Central Vietnam'. An initiative of the Governments of Vietnam and Australia, Vietnamese institutions will be working with the Universities of Sydney, Queensland and Adelaide, and the Department of Primary Industry (DPI) Victoria.

The project will look at improving the genetics of local pig breeds in Central Vietnam by the introduction of high performance lines for pure breeding and exotic breeding programs. This will result in significant benefits for small holding farmers if it can be aligned with an integrated farrow-to-finish management plan (focusing on health, husbandry, housing and nutrition) to improve production parameters and limit health problems.

In March representatives from the five Vietnamese organisations visited their Australian partners for the first time. They met with Faculty staff member Dr Trish Holyoake, Senior Lecturer in Intensive Animal Health, and toured the Camden Campus piggyery. The visiting team members were Dr Nguyen Que Coi (Head of Department of Small Livestock Research, National Institution of Animal Husbandry, Hanoi), Dr Nguyen Quang Linh (Vice Dean, Faculty of Animal Sciences, Hue University of Agriculture and Forestry), Dr Cu Huu Phu (Head of Bacteriology Department, National Institute of Veterinary Research, Hanoi), Mr Nguyen Van Hieu, Vice Director (Department of Agricultural and Rural Development of Quang Tri province), and Mrs Nguyen Thi Chieu (Chair of Vietnamese Farmer Association – Thua Thien, Hue).



## Faculty News

### Grace Mary Mitchell Awards

Initiated in 1989 as part of a bequest from the late Grace Mary Mitchell, these awards are presented each year to staff nominated by other Faculty members for their outstanding contribution over the year. Congratulations to the 2005 recipients:

**Ms Lisa Ashley** (Administrative Assistant for the Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience degree), **Mr Federico Costa** (Web Services Coordinator), **Ms Tess La-Lande** (Administrative Assistant, Faculty Office), **Ms Sally Pope** (Senior Technical Officer, Veterinary Anatomy and Pathology), **Professor Herman Raadsma** (Director, ReproGen - the Faculty's Centre for Advanced Technologies in Animal Genetics and Reproduction) and **Dr Paul Sheehy** (Lecturer in Cell Biology and Animal Nutrition, Sub Dean e-Learning).

A Student Nominated Outstanding Teaching Award has also been established this year, with students nominating a member of staff for outstanding teaching. Overwhelming student support gave the inaugural award to the team of **Dr Jacqui Norris and Associate Professor Jennifer Hodgson**, lecturers in Microbiology (Bacteriology). Almost ninety students wrote endorsements of the team's winning teaching style, and the passion for learning instilled in them by Jennie and Jacqui.

### Australian College of Educators Quality Award

Dr Paul McGreevy, Senior Lecturer Animal Science, has been awarded the Australian College of Educators Quality Teaching Award, presented by the NSW Minister for Education and Training. The award recognises accomplished teaching practice through a rigorous process including referees reports, professional learning portfolios, workplace visits and an assessment of the candidates professional knowledge, understanding, skills and values.

### April Seminar Speakers

The following speakers will present seminars in April:

#### Sydney Campus – Wednesdays, 1pm, Webster Lecture Theatre:

- 5 April** Dr Roslyn Bathgate - Comparing ART between species
- 12 April** Professor Frank Nicholas - Progress in sheep genomics
- 19 April** Dr Karen Firestone (UNSW and Taronga Zoo) - In quest of quolls
- 26 April** Dr Janine Deakin (ANU) - The wonderful world of marsupials and their genomes

#### Camden Campus – Thursdays, 1pm, Shute Building Lecture Theatre

- 13 April** Dr Arhad Iqbal - Dairying in Pakistan
- Professor Herman Raadsma - Disease resistance
- 27 April** Dr Trish Holyoake - First impressions of commercial pig farms in Vietnam
- Dr Arhad Iqbal - Intensive camel management

## 2005 Prize Recipients

Prize	Criteria for Award	Year	Recipients Name
Deans List BVSc	Awarded for Excellence in Academic Performance		Michael Damien Healy (Year 1), Amy Ellen Sparks (Year 1), Devon O'Rorke Wieneke (Year 1), Max Jeffrey-Leigh Tori (Year 1), Ingrid Goodman (Year 1), Athanasia Chambers (Year 2), Kai Ho Ma (Year 2), Mei Chet Lee (Year 2), Sophie Hale (Year 2), Rosemary Brungs (Year 3), Sally-Anne Debney (Year 3), Fiona Shailer (Year 3), Chung Wah Angeline Wong (Year 3), Michelle Gray (Year 4), Andrew Levien (Year 4), Michael Rupp (Year 4) and Katherine Evans (Year 4)
Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT-Australia) Prize for Canine Welfare Science	Awarded for proficiency in VETS3018 Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare Science relating to behaviour and welfare of the domestic dog.	3rd Year	Shonagh Briscoe
Australian College of Veterinary Scientists, Surgical Chapter Prize for Veterinary Surgery	Awarded for proficiency in Veterinary Surgery in Year 3	3rd Year	Gwen Shirlow
Australian Equine Veterinary Association Prize in Horse Medicine and Surgery	Awarded to the top equine student in horse medicine and surgery in 4th Year	4th Year	Katherine Wykes
Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association Prize in Medicine and Surgery	Awarded for proficiency in small animal medicine and surgery	4th Year	Michelle Gray
Australian Society for Parasitology Prize in Veterinary Parasitology	Awarded annually to the students who present the best project in Parasitology 3	3rd Year	Erin Kefford, Leanne Huynh, Karen Kuwahata, Amrita Grewal
Australian Veterinarians in Public Health Students Prize	Awarded for Excellence in Veterinary Public Health Studies	3rd Year	Sara Biasutti
Auxiliary to the AVA (NSW Division) Prize for 3rd Year	Awarded for the greatest improvement in 3rd year after having passed 2nd year with more than 60%	3rd Year	Amy Pepper
Auxiliary to the AVA (NSW Division) Prize for Cell Biology & Veterinary Anatomy & Physiology I & II	Awarded for proficiency in Cell Biology and Veterinary Anatomy & Physiology in 1st and 2nd Years	2nd Year	Athanasia Chambers
Auxiliary to the AVA (NSW Division) Prize in Animal Genetics	Awarded for proficiency in Animal Genetics	2nd Year	Tristan Maugueret
Auxiliary to the AVA (NSW Division) Prize in Veterinary Medicine & Clinical Pathology	Awarded for proficiency in 4th year Veterinary Medicine & Clinical Pathology	4th Year	Michelle Gray
AVA Prize for Undergraduates in Veterinary Pathology	Awarded for proficiency in Veterinary Pathology	3rd Year	Rosemary Brungs
Baker and Ridley Memorial Prize for Animal Husbandry	Awarded for proficiency in 4th year Animal Husbandry Practical Report	4th Year	Andrew Levien
C.W. Emmens Prize in Veterinary Physiology	Awarded for the Highest aggregate marks in 1st and 2nd year Veterinary Anatomy & Physiology in sequential years	2nd Year	Kai Ho Ma
Cat Protection Society Prize for Feline Welfare Science	Awarded for proficiency in VETS3018 Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare Science and the greatest understanding of issues related to domestic feline behaviour and welfare in the Animal Welfare Science Essay.	3rd Year	Suzanne Leibel

## 2005 Prize Recipients

Chapter of Veterinary Pharmacology of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists Prize in Veterinary Pharmacology & Toxicology	Awarded for proficiency in 3rd year Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology	3rd Year	Heather Chee
Schering-Plough Animal Health Prize in Veterinary Parasitology	Awarded for proficiency Veterinary Parasitology in 3rd year	3rd Year	Sally-Anne Debney
Elsevier Prize for Exotic Animal Welfare Science	Awarded for proficiency in VETS3018 Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare Science and the greatest understanding of issues related to exotic animal behaviour and welfare in the Animal Welfare Science Essay.	3rd Year	Victoria Knight
Epidemiology Chapter of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists Prize in Epidemiology	Awarded for proficiency in VETS5338 Rural Public Practice Rotation and knowledge of Epidemiology, based on written reports submitted.	4th Year	Shaun Mooney
Goodman Fielder - Uncle Toby's Prize for Animal Nutrition in the BVSc and BAnVetBioSc	Awarded annually to the student who demonstrates the greatest proficiency in VETS2010 Animal Digestion & Nutrition or ANSC3001 Animal Nutrition 3	2nd Year	Louise Rabbitt
H.G. Belschner Prize in Sheep and Wool	Awarded for proficiency in 1st year sheep and wool	1st Year	Michael Healy
John Gurner and Frederick Ebsworth Scholarship in Cell Biology 1A	Awarded for proficiency in 1st year in Cell Biology 1A	1st Year	Max Jeffrey-Leigh Tori
John Gurner and Frederick Ebsworth Scholarship in Cell Biology 1B	Awarded for proficiency in 1st year in Cell Biology 1B	1st Year	Max Jeffrey-Leigh Tori
John Gurner and Frederick Ebsworth Scholarship in Chemistry	Awarded for proficiency in 1st year in Chemistry	1st Year	Aileen Wong
K.G. Johnston Prize in Veterinary Clinical Pathology	Awarded for proficiency in Veterinary Medicine & Clinical Pathology	4th Year	Andrew Levien
Lonsdale Prize (A) in Clinical Studies	Awarded for proficiency in 4th year in Clinical Studies	4th Year	Michelle Gray
Lonsdale Prize (B) in Clinical Studies	Awarded for proficiency in 4th year in Clinical Studies	4th Year	Michael Ruppin
Mayne Health Vetnostics Prize in Veterinary Clinical Pathology	Awarded for proficiency in Veterinary Clinical Pathology in 4th year.	4th Year	Andrew Levien
MLA Beef Cattle Welfare Science Prize	Awarded annually to the student enrolled in VETS3018 Animal Behaviour & Animal Welfare Science who demonstrates the greatest proficiency in the Animal Welfare Science essay with a mark of 85% or more and a focus on beef cattle.	3rd Year	Siobhan Egan
MLA Sheep Welfare Science Prize	Awarded annually to the student enrolled in VETS3018 Animal Behaviour & Animal Welfare Science who demonstrates the greatest proficiency in the Animal Welfare Science essay with a mark of 85% or more and a focus on sheep.	3rd Year	Damon Leeder
NPH Graham Prize in Sheep Medicine	Awarded for proficiency in the sheep component of Veterinary Ruminant Health & Production	4th Year	Katherine Wykes
Powerhouse Logistics Prize for Veterinary Conservation Biology	Awarded annually to the student who demonstrates the greatest proficiency in VETS2015 Veterinary Conservation Biology	2nd Year	Natalie Adby
Rex Butterfield Prize in Veterinary Anatomy	Awarded for proficiency in 2nd year Veterinary Anatomy	2nd Year	Kai Ho Ma
Robert Reeves Hodgekiss Prize	Awarded for proficiency in the Horse Medicine & Surgery in Year 4	4th Year	Ariella Hayek

## 2005 Prize Recipients

RSPCA (Australia) Pig Welfare Science Prize	Awarded annually to the student enrolled in VETS3018 Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare Science who demonstrates the greatest proficiency in the Animal Welfare Science Essay to do with Pig Welfare Science	3rd Year	Sally-Anne Debney
RSPCA (Australia) Poultry Welfare Science Prize	Awarded annually to the student enrolled in VETS3018 Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare Science who demonstrates the greatest proficiency in the Animal Welfare Science Essay to do with Poultry Welfare Science	3rd Year	Anne Scheving
Stewart Prize in Veterinary Medicine	Awarded for proficiency in Veterinary Medicine in 4th year	4th Year	Michelle Gray
<i>The Veterinarian</i> Magazine Prize for Written Communication	Awarded annually to students enrolled in VETS3018 Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare Science who achieve a high distinction in the Animal Welfare Science Essay	3rd Year	Kylie Aplin, Sara Biasutti, Shonagh Briscoe, Sian Cains, Kate Chambers, Sally Coggins, Sally-Anne Debney, Siobhan Egan, Pru Harvey, Jesse Hughes, Lisa Kavanagh, Victoria Knight, Suzanne Leibel, Damon Leeder, Matthew Leong, Adele Lloyd, Jennifer Lugton, Alicia McLuckie, Katherine Mason, Karishma Nandha, Toni Nguyen, Karen Phillips, Ying Jiao (Leah) Puk, Larissa Savva, Anne Scheving, Tania Shaw, Gwen Shirlow and Shae Sullivan
Veterinary Imaging Associates Prize in Veterinary Radiology	Awarded for proficiency in Veterinary Radiology in 4th year	4th Year	Michelle Gray and Patrick Maguire
Vet's Best Products Reward	Awarded for proficiency in VETS3018 Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare Science for the greatest understanding of animal training in the Animal Welfare Science Essay	3rd Year	Shonagh Briscoe
Virginia Osborne Prize for Anatomy of the Horse	Awarded for proficiency in 2nd year in anatomy of the horse	2nd Year	Athanasia Chambers
W.R. Sidman Memorial Prize	Awarded by the AVA (NSW Div) for proficiency in Veterinary Clinical Studies in 4th year.	4th Year	Michael Ruppin
Wally McGreevy Prize in Animal Welfare Science	Awarded for proficiency in Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare Science	3rd Year	Alicia McLuckie
William James McHugh Prize in Equine Medicine or Surgery	Awarded to a 4th or 5th year student who prepares the best case report in equine medicine or surgery provided the entry is of sufficient merit	4th Year	Amy Lee
WIRES Wildlife Prize	Awarded for proficiency in the 'Written Project' component of Veterinary Conservation Biology in Year 2 relating to Australian native wildlife	2nd Year	Carlie Soul
Grahame Edgar Scholarship	By application	BSc(Vet)	Alexandra Brueckner
Faculty of Veterinary Science Sheep Genomics Summer Vacation Scholarship	By application		Kathryn Ingram (Year 2), David Fowler (Year 3)
Friends of the Brush-Tailed Rock Wallaby Scholarship	Awarded to a student enrolled in the Masters of Applied Science (Wildlife Health and Population Management) program, for research that will enhance knowledge of the Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby and/or its habitat.	PG	Sonia Roberts
RSPCA/Una Clare Spark Animal Welfare Scholarship	Established in 2003 to promote and encourage research related to animal welfare. Awarded to a Bachelor of Science (Veterinary) student based on the appropriateness of the proposed program of study.	BSc(Vet)	Laura Grogan
The Jean and Ray Blencowe Scholarship	Awarded each year to the student in NSW who achieves the highest aggregate score in the Higher School Certificate and who is admitted to a full-time University course in NSW in Veterinary Science the following year.	1st Year	Jennifer Urwin
VETSOC Final Year Scholarships	By application	4th year	Anna Tarver and Luke Ingenhoff

2005 Prize Recipients

Albert Victor Steers Harris Bequest	Awarded to the top female students in the 5th year of the BVSc receiving the highest marks	5th Year	Erin Bell
Albert Victor Steers Harris Bequest	Awarded to the top male students in the 5th year of the BVSc receiving the highest marks	5th Year	Michael McCormack
AVA Student Award	Awarded to a student who through their academic work and participation in student affairs, are considered to be an asset to the student body and potentially an asset to the veterinary profession and AVA.	5th Year	Perin Vale
Post Graduate Foundation Veterinary Prize	Awarded for clinical competency to a graduating veterinarian	5th Year	Perin Vale
Richard Norman Sanders Prize	Awarded for proficiency in practical clinical work in both the 4th and 5th years of study	4th & 5th Year	Kathryn Adams
S.T.D. Symons Prize for Clinical Studies	Awarded for proficiency in clinical subjects, based on the Year 5 supervisor rotation reports and the best result calculated by the greatest number of overall outstanding grades.	5th Year	Kathryn Adams
Veterinary Science Foundation PhD Excellence Award	Awarded annually to a PhD student in the Faculty of Veterinary Science who is awarded a PhD without significant emendations (with all three examiners recommending either no further examination required or correction only of typographical errors) and the examiners reports indicate excellence of work.	PG	Sophie Hall-Aspland and Natasha Ellis