Welcome to the “new look” Rumenations. This issue coincides with a major Faculty and Foundation milestone - the long-awaited start of Stage 1 of the redevelopment of the University Teaching Hospital at Sydney. More news in this issue includes the exciting move by the Veterinary Science Foundation to take its annual event, vets@work, to Sydney Olympic Park on Sunday 14 September, and Veterinary Science for Animal Welfare has launched a photographic competition for students and staff. The final exhibition and celebrity judging will take place on Thursday 11 September, in conjunction with the J D Stewart Address and reception. The 2003 Address will be delivered by eminent alumnus, entrepreneur and entertaining speaker Dr Graham Kelly, Executive Director and founder of Novogen.

The commencement of the demolition of the horse stables during July marked the beginning of the construction of Stage 1 of the University Veterinary Centre Sydney redevelopment. The location will become the site of the state-of-the-art Valentine Charlton Cat Centre, and Stage 1 will also include a new pharmacy, dog hospital waiting room, staff facilities, and new isolation rooms that will fulfill the needs of the American Veterinary Medical Association accreditation requirements.

Demolition is expected to take 4 weeks, and will be followed by the seeking of tenders by the University Facilities Management Office for the construction works, scheduled to commence in October 2003.

The Valentine Charlton Cat Centre has been made possible by a significant bequest through the Post Graduate Foundation in Veterinary Science. The Veterinary Science Foundation’s hard working volunteer capital campaign committee has now secured, including this bequest, around $2.2 million in pledges for the building campaign. Major industry supporters include Provet, Hill’s Pet Nutrition, Apex Laboratories and Novartis, and the University of Sydney is providing matching funds.

Dean Professor Reuben Rose was awarded the Gilruth Prize during the opening ceremony of the Australian Veterinary Association annual conference in May. The Gilruth is the Association’s most prestigious award, recognising meritorious service to veterinary science in Australia.

Professor Frank Nicholas has been awarded the Helen Newton Turner Medal for 2003 and subsequently delivered the Turner Oration at the Association for the Advancement of Animal Breeding and Genetics meeting held in Melbourne in July. The award, established in 1993, perpetuates the memory of an outstanding Australian scientist and sheep geneticist, Dr Helen Alma Newton Turner (1908 - 1995). It is the most prestigious award for Australian livestock geneticists - see http://agbu.une.edu.au/~aahnt.html.

The Veterinary Science Foundation receives regular positive feedback about the wonderful work of our clinicians and a July edition of the Daily Telegraph featured a special letter of thanks from Ms Leisa Chell, a client of the University Veterinary Centre at Sydney (UVCS), whose cat was treated by Dr Arieh Ende. Arieh was described as having an “obvious passion for his work and a bedside manner that would put most human doctors to shame”. The letter concluded with a thank you to Arieh and all the staff of the UVCS.
During the intersemester break, the Faculty hosted a major two-day conference for veterinary practitioners contributing to the Partner Practice Extramural Program. The conference, organised by Associate Professor Bob Ratcliffe, aimed to provide practitioners with up to date information on financial management, with presentations featuring Mr Andrew Geddes, Australia’s leading expert on practice management. Sessions on new approaches to teaching and learning were given by Faculty members and a dinner was held on the first evening of the conference.

More than 90 veterinary practices, including many from rural NSW and some from interstate, were represented. The program also included updates on the new curriculum, which was warmly endorsed by the veterinarians. The Faculty emphasised that it was seeking a two way relationship with practitioners, with important outcomes including future veterinarians better prepared for the move to practice after graduation.

vets@work 2003

vets@work 2003 has grown into Australia’s Biggest Dog Wash, to be held at Sydney Olympic Park on Sunday 14 September (see page 3). Our vets@work committee will be approaching students and staff to volunteer again for dog washing and pet health checks.

The J D Stewart Address, on Thursday 11 September from 5.30pm to 6.30pm in the Webster Lecture Theatre, will be presented by Dr Graham Kelly of Novogen, an entertaining speaker with an inspiring story to tell. All staff and students are invited to stay after the Address for cocktails. RVSPs are essential for catering. Prizes for the winners in the VSAW photographic competition (see page 4) will be awarded on the night, and the images will be on display from Wednesday 10 September in the VSCC.

To RSVP for the J D Stewart Address or enquire about participating in Australia’s Biggest Dog Wash - drop into the VSF offices or email vsf@vetsci.usyd.edu.au.

new vsf project coordinator

The new Rumenations layout is the work of the Veterinary Science Foundation’s new Project Coordinator Zara Gosson, a marketing professional with a background working for the BBC’s international radio service, BBC World Service in London.

Zara can be contacted on (02) 9351 8026 or e-mail vsf@vetsci.usyd.edu.au

staff and students shine/cont...

Two nurses from the University Veterinary Centre at Sydney, Charmaine Piggott and Jasmine Feeney, have become the first nurses in NSW to complete a Certificate in Advanced Nursing in Emergency and Critical Care (ARNRC). The one year post-Certificate 4 studies included monthly case studies, anaesthetic and radiographic diaries, protocol in fluid therapy and CPR, and proficiency in nutrition.

Year 4 student Susan de Burgh is the recipient of the 2003 RSPCA Alan White Scholarship. Susan’s project is Animal Welfare Education in Papua New Guinea and Australia, and she will travel to Port Moresby in September, staying at the RSPCA and visiting schools to promote animal welfare.

Dr Julian Lunn’s image of his Burmese “Oscar”, sprawled upside down on a stairway, has won the enormously popular Sunday Telegraph Pet of the Year competition.

Staff members do have a life outside the Faculty. Associate Lecturer in Anatomy Dr Jane Stevenson competes in ocean swimming races every summer weekend at various Sydney beaches - see www.oceanswims.com. Jane swims around 2 kilometres in each race, sometimes in challenging conditions with high swells, often winning her division.

book donation

Following a request by the Veterinary Science Foundation, Elsevier Australia have generously donated to the UVCS, for staff and student use, a copy each of “Radiography in Veterinary Technology” by Lavin and “Veterinary Diagnostic Ultrasound” by Nyland.

We want your feedback and contributions. Contact the newsletter team on email vsf@vetsci.usyd.edu.au, phone Jennie Churchill, Director of the VSF on 9351 8024, or Zara Gosson, VSF Project Coordinator, on 9351 8026.
AUSTRALIA’S BIGGEST DOG WASH

Sunday 14 September at Sydney Olympic Park

With special guest

DR HARRY COOPER

BRING YOUR DOG!
Help Sydney University veterinary students break the GUINNESS WORLD RECORD for DOG WASHING!

..and raise funds for the Veterinary Science Foundation, the charity dedicated to animal health and welfare and the education of the vets of the future

We must wash 720 dogs in 8 hours to put Sydney’s pooches in the record books!

REGISTER YOUR DOG TO BE A RECORD BREAKER FOR JUST $10
Each dog receives a certificate, wash, flea and worm treatment and ‘doggie’ sample bag to the value of $50

Enter your dog online at www.vetsci.usyd.edu.au/Foundation
Please complete a separate entry form for each dog

Entertainment 10am - 4pm
Dr Harry on stage | Free Pet Health Checks & Advice
Pet weigh-ins | Nail trimming | Micro-chipping demonstration
Agility Dogs | Flyball | NSW Police Dogs | Dancing dogs
Free wash for non-record breaking dogs | Dog breeder displays
Stalls | Dog Creche | Monster Raffle

Australia’s Biggest Dog Wash at the Sydney Showground is part of Sydney Olympic Park Alive! on Sunday 14 September
You and your best friend can participate in this Open Day to showcase the park and enjoy a diverse range of FREE entertainment, experiences, sport, special events and activities...

for a brochure, call 9714 7545

Public transport information call 131 500

Thank you to our sponsors:
TO ENTER ....
submit an image 5’x7’ (12.7cmx17.8cm) or larger on the theme of
‘ANIMAL WELFARE’
under any of the following 3 categories:
Black and White
Colour
Digital Images (e.g Photoshop creations)
Staff are also invited to submit images, of any style, in the uniquely titled
‘Staff Category’

You can win FANTASTIC prizes
including digital cameras generously donated by Harvey Norman
and.....
should you win the People’s Choice Award ..........
the ‘GLORY AND ADMIRATION OF THE FACULTY’!

Entries need to be submitted to the
VSF office (JD Stewart) by 29 August
and must be mounted on white cardboard
and accompanied by a
completed entry form

All the images will be displayed during vets@work week
and the prizes (including the ‘GLORY AND ADMIRATION OF THE FACULTY’) will be awarded at the 2003 JD Steward Address on 11 September

For further queries please contact Katherine Evans at keis6789@mail.usyd.edu.au