Dr Harry Cooper

Professor Leo Jeffcott, currently Dean of Cambridge University Veterinary School in the UK, is the new Dean of the University of Sydney Faculty of Veterinary Science.

Prior to commencing his new role on 1 October this year, Professor Jeffcott will visit the Faculty to deliver the 2004 J D Stewart Address and participate in the 2004 Partner Practice Conference on Friday 9 July.

(see www.vetsci.usyd.edu.au/Foundation/media_news.php)

The Veterinary Science Foundation’s Annual General Meeting, held in late April, saw leadership changes and new faces join the Executive Committee, the Foundation’s hard-working volunteer Board. Our newly elected President is Ms Deborah Smithers. Deborah, who has a legal background and has been a partner in two national law firms, is National Head of Board Advisory Services at KPMG and leads a team of advisers who work with individuals and boards from some of Australia’s most prestigious and well-known organisations. She has a strong commercial and legal background encompassing an extensive knowledge of commercial practice and business structures and an appreciation for finance, marketing and human resource issues.

Deborah has been involved with the VSF for a number of years, both as Chair of the Events Committee and then as Board member. She says despite other not-for-profit opportunities she decided to focus her energies on the VSF: ‘I am passionate about the health and welfare of animals, and I also value the Foundation’s connection with youth and education through the University of Sydney’.

Deputy President Mr Martin Chimes is one of the longest-serving members of the Executive Committee. As well as his unwavering commitment to the Faculty and Foundation, Martin is renowned for the loyal attendance at board meetings of his two Jack Russell terriers. A chartered accountant, he invests in property, private and public companies and was Chief Executive Officer of Corporate Express Limited, Australia’s largest listed Office Supplies company.

New VSF Board members are Mr James Balfour (financial management), Dr John Culvenor (alumnus, North Shore Veterinary Specialist Centre), Mr Roger Perkins (Chief Executive of the Royal Agricultural Society (RAS) of NSW), Ms Anne De Salis (Group Executive, Corporate Culture and Communications, MBF), Mr Tony Thirlwell (Executive Director of the NSW Division of the Heart Foundation).

Visit our website for information about all VSF Board members and the Foundation’s governance:

The group's highest campsite, 3,600m

Mr Martin Chimes

Ms Deborah Smithers

The group's highest campsite, 3,600m

The world expeditions fundraising trek for the Veterinary Science Foundation took place in Nepal during March/April. Sixteen group members, mainly veterinarians, their families and a Foundation donor and client of the University Veterinary Centre Sydney, started their adventure in the Royal Chitwan National Park bordering India, spending time on elephant-back seeking out wildlife such as the endangered one-horned rhinoceros and the Bengal tiger. Through Associate Professor Tony English, a special tour was organised to the elephant breeding centre in Sauraha and, in Kathmandu, the presentation of a highly informative talk by a senior member of the Nepal Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation.

The group headed north and over a period of 10 days, climbed in the Annapurna Conservation Area to 4,500 metres, finishing close to the base of the 8,977m peak, Machhapuchhre, before heading back through magnificent rhododendron forests to Pokhara. The trek was an extraordinary adventure, and World Expeditions staff, both in Sydney and Nepal, were highly professional and ensured the group was remarkably well fed and cared for, even at the most remote locations.

The Foundation wishes to acknowledge the generosity of World Expeditions - the organisation donated $15,000 from the trek to the VSF.

The group's highest campsite, 3,600m
from the dean’s desk

At the recent Australian Veterinary Association Annual Conference held in Canberra, I had the opportunity to discuss with other Deans, members of the AVA Education Advisory Committee, Dr John Craven, Chair of the Veterinary Schools Accreditation Advisory Committee (VSAAC), and visiting overseas presidents of veterinary associations, the vexing matter of the establishment of new veterinary schools. The discussions were naturally animated and many concerns were raised. Australia already has a new veterinary school based at Wagga Wagga and it is highly likely that James Cook University will be given the nod to start one as early as 2005.

Australia is not alone in facing this challenge: new schools are planned for California, Alberta and the University of Nottingham. Given that the established veterinary schools and the veterinary professions have had little input into the process of establishing new veterinary schools, what type of relationship should develop in the years to come? It would be easy to simply ignore their existence, but what are the consequences of such an approach?

Australian graduates are highly valued throughout the world and it is important that this high standard at graduation is maintained: reputation is quickly damaged. New veterinary schools in Australia will need to be assisted and guided in producing high quality graduates, for all will join the present pool of Australian graduates. VSAAC will be playing its part through new guidelines for ongoing accreditation of new Australian veterinary schools. It is important that the veterinary profession and the established veterinary schools assist VSAAC in this quality assurance program to ensure Australia maintains its reputation for excellence in veterinary science.

Professor Paul Canfield, Acting Dean

AVA award

Announced at the National AVA Conference in Canberra last week, Associate Professor Jennie Hodgson has received the 2004 Excellence in Teaching Award. The presentation will take place at the 2005 conference on the Gold Coast.

royal easter show 2004

Last month the annual Royal Agricultural Society’s Easter Show took place at Sydney Olympic Park. The Faculty has a long history of involvement in this major event and 2004 was no different with Year 3 and Year 4 students taking part in various veterinary-related activities (not to mention two entrants in the Showgirl competition!).

This year, for the first time, the RAS and Faculty joined in a more formal initiative to educate Year 1 students on the role of veterinarians and students at the Show. RAS Council members, RAS veterinarian Dr Bill Howey, and Post Graduate Foundation Director, Dr Michele Cotton, together with RAS veterinarian Dr Mark Schembri, delivered lectures and organised a free visit for students to the Show to undertake Animal Husbandry and Partner Practice assignments.

Student prize ceremony

_notify_2003 prize-winning veterinary undergraduates received their awards at an evening ceremony on 2 April. The Chancellor, family, friends, Faculty staff and award sponsors joined students to celebrate their achievements.

See the full list of awards and their recipients overleaf.

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.
2003 Student Prize Winners

Deans List
Awarded for Excellence in Academic Performance

Albert Victor Steers Harris Bequest
Awarded to the top male and female students in the 5th year of the BVSc receiving the highest marks

Tamera Acciari (5)

Albert Victor Steers Harris Bequest
Awarded to the top male and female students in the 5th year of the BVSc receiving the highest marks

Justin Wimpole (5)

Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT-Australia)
Proficiency in Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare Science

Emily Orchard-Mills (3)

Australian College of Veterinary Scientists, Surgery Chapter Prize for Veterinary Surgery
Proficiency in Veterinary Surgery in Year 3

Rosemary McColl (3)

Australian Equine Veterinary Association Prize to the top equine student in medicine and surgery in final year
Awarded to the top equine student in medicine and surgery in 4th Year

Jamie Wearn (4)

Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association and Masterfoods Australia New Zealand Prize in Medicine and Surgery
Proficiency in small animal medicine and surgery

Emma Synnott (4)

Australian Society for Parasitology Prize in Veterinary Parasitology
Proficiency in Parasitology 3 (may be shared)

Kimberley MacAdams (3)

Australian Society for Parasitology Prize in Veterinary Parasitology
Proficiency in Parasitology 3 (may be shared)

Nicole Hosken (3)

Australian Society for Parasitology Prize in Veterinary Parasitology
Proficiency in Parasitology 3 (may be shared)

Carly Smith (3)

Australian Society for Parasitology Prize in Veterinary Parasitology
Proficiency in Parasitology 3 (may be shared)

Hannah Wellman (3)

Australian Veterinarians in Public Health Students Prize
For Excellence in Veterinary Public Health Studies

Justin Wimpole (5)

Auxiliary to the AVA (NSW Division) Prize for 3rd Year
Greatest improvement in 3rd year after having passed 2nd year with more than 60%

Carly Smith (3)

Auxiliary to the AVA (NSW Division) Prize for Cell Biology and Veterinary Anatomy & Physiology I and II
Proficiency in Cell Biology and Veterinary Anatomy & Physiology in 1st and 2nd Years

Michelle Gray (2)

Auxiliary to the AVA (NSW Division) Prize in Animal Genetics
Proficiency in Animal Genetics

Michelle Gray (2)

Auxiliary to the AVA (NSW Division) Prize in Veterinary Medicine & Clinical Pathology
Proficiency in 4th year Veterinary Medicine & Clinical Pathology

Emma Synnott (4)

AVA Prize for Undergraduates in Veterinary Pathology
Proficiency in Veterinary Pathology

Madeleine Bamford (3)

AVA Student Award
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.

Ilana Mendels (5)

Baker and Ridley Memorial Prize for Animal Husbandry
Proficiency in 4th year Animal Husbandry. Practical Report

Vicki Dreyer (4)

C.W. Emmens Prize in Veterinary Physiology
Highest aggregate marks in 1st and 2nd year Veterinary Anatomy & Physiology in sequential years

Michelle Gray (2)

Chapter of Veterinary Pharmacology of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists Prize in Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology
Proficiency in 3rd year Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology

Neroli Sunderland (3)

Cooper Australia Prize in Veterinary Parasitology
Proficiency Veterinary Parasitology in 3rd year

Kimberley MacAdams (3)

Epidemiology Chapter of of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists Prize in Epidemiology
Proficiency in 5th year in Epidemiology

Tamera Acciari (5)

F.H. Loxton Scholarship in BSc(Vet)
by application

Graham Brown BSc(Vet)

Farr Memorial Prize in Animal Husbandry
Proficiency in 1st year horse husbandry

Sillian Rickard (1)

Grahame Edgar Scholarship
by application

Tanya Grassi BSc(Vet)

Grahame Edgar Scholarship
by application

Erin Bell BSc(Vet)

H.G. Belschner Prize in Sheep and Wool
Proficiency in 1st year sheep and wool

Lisa Claire Nivison (1)

H.R. Carne Prize and Medal for Excellence in the Bachelor of Science (Veterinary) Degree
Proficiency in the examinations for BSc(Vet) degree

Erin Bell
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship Name</th>
<th>Proficiency Year</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Gurner and Frederick Ebsworth Scholarship in Cell Biology 1A</td>
<td>1st year in Cell Biology 1A</td>
<td>Nicholette Renee Holt</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Gurner and Frederick Ebsworth Scholarship in Cell Biology 1B SHARED</td>
<td>1st year in Cell Biology 1B</td>
<td>Damon Leeder</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Gurner and Frederick Ebsworth Scholarship in Cell Biology 1B SHARED</td>
<td>1st year in Cell Biology 1B</td>
<td>Sally-Anne Debney</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Gurner and Frederick Ebsworth Scholarship in Chemistry</td>
<td>1st year in Chemistry</td>
<td>Fiona Shailer</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lonsdale Prize (A) in Clinical Studies</td>
<td>4th year in Clinical Studies</td>
<td>Emma Synnott</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lonsdale Prize (B) in Clinical Studies</td>
<td>4th year in Clinical Studies</td>
<td>Zoe Page</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayne Health Vetnastics Prize in Veterinary Medicine &amp; Clinical Pathology</td>
<td>4th year Veterinary Medicine &amp; Clinical Pathology</td>
<td>Emma Synnott</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N.P.H. Graham Prize in Sheep Medicine</td>
<td>Proficiency in the sheep component of Veterinary Ruminant Health &amp; Production</td>
<td>Tamra Acciari</td>
<td>(5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Foundation Veterinary Prize</td>
<td>For clinical competency to a graduating veterinarian</td>
<td>Katherine Briscoe</td>
<td>(5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R.W. Gee Animal Welfare Prize</td>
<td>Awarded to a student completing the 3rd year of the BVSc based on proficiency in subjects relating to Animal Welfare throughout the first 3 years of the degree and a mandatory project report relating to animal welfare in Professional Practice 2.</td>
<td>Kimberley MacAdams</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rex Butterfield Prize in Veterinary Anatomy</td>
<td>Proficiency in 2nd year Veterinary Anatomy</td>
<td>Michelle Gray</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Norman Sanders Prize</td>
<td>Proficiency in practical clinical work in both the 4th and 5th years of study</td>
<td>Tamra Acciari</td>
<td>(5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Reeves Hodgekiss Prize</td>
<td>Proficiency in the Horse Medicine &amp; Surgery in Year 5</td>
<td>Katherine Briscoe</td>
<td>(5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.T.D. Symons Prize for Clinical Studies</td>
<td>Proficiency in 5th year clinical subjects</td>
<td>Emma Synnott</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stewart Prize in Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td>Proficiency in 4th year in Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td>Mei-Chet Lee</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Jean and Ray Blencowe Scholarship</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Lara Lee</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary Imaging Associates Prize in Veterinary Radiology</td>
<td>Proficiency in 4th year in Veterinary Radiology</td>
<td>Michelle Boland</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Osborne Prize for Anatomy of the Horse</td>
<td>Proficiency in 2nd year in anatomy of the horse</td>
<td>Michelle Gray</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.R. Sidman Memorial Prize awarded by AVA (NSW Div) for Clinical Studies in 4th Year</td>
<td>Proficiency in 4th year in Veterinary Clinical Studies</td>
<td>Zoe Page</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William James McHugh Prize in Equine Medicine or Surgery</td>
<td>4th or 5th year student who prepares the best case report in equine medicine or surgery provided the entry is of sufficient merit</td>
<td>Jamie Wearn</td>
<td>(5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIRES Wildlife Prize</td>
<td>Proficiency in the 'Written Project' component of Veterinary Conservation Biology in Year 2 relating to Australian native wildlife</td>
<td>Michelle Gray</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>