The Future of the Veterinary Profession

Professor Reuben Rose, Dean

Over the last 6 months, I have taken the opportunity to talk to students, veterinarians and the general public about how they see the veterinary profession of the future.

This has been tremendously instructive and there is no doubt that the community regard of the profession remains high and there is great confidence and optimism about the future. There continues to be a strong demand internationally for entry to veterinary science and this year the Faculty admitted 25 international students to the BVSc degree. Will this demand continue and what roles will veterinarians play in 10 to 20 years? This latter issue is one of the key questions addressed by students in the Pfizer Student Leadership Development Programme (described elsewhere in Roundhouse).

We have seen enormous change in our profession over the last 30 years. We have moved from a profession that was male dominated and involved a large proportion of students from rural backgrounds, to one that now attracts mainly women. Very few students growing up west of the Great Divide are able to gain entry, possibly because of more limited secondary educational opportunities in the bush. These changes obviously will lead to a range of different career choices and work practices, which have not yet had their full impact.

At the moment we have limited data on the preferred careers and options for women in the profession. One of the concerns expressed to me by a number of veterinarians who own practices is that female veterinarians do not wish to own practices. Other issues we need to understand include requirements for child-care and family support. Understanding the constraints and difficulties experienced by the current generation of women in veterinary practice will be valuable for future planning and support. Intuitively, one would suspect that it may be more difficult for women to work in rural practice because of the lack of work opportunities for partners and limited family support.

What type of practice will students want to work in, in the future? A survey of all students in the Faculty in 1999 found that the preferred areas of practice were small animal, wildlife and equine. These areas constituted almost 80% of the student preferences, with around 20% indicating that they were interested in working with cattle. Less than 0.5% indicated an interest in working in the sheep, pig or poultry industries. These figures are interesting and also reflect surveys of career choices made by graduates. However, curricula internationally are still strongly weighted towards production animal issues. We must carefully consider the future and the role of veterinarians in large animal practice as well as the economic and political importance of the production animal industry and issues such as food safety. Farmers are using veterinary services less and less and the traditional fire brigade role for veterinarians is becoming less important in rural areas. I believe that veterinarians have a critical and substantial role to play in the production animal industries but we need to look ahead to focus our training on skills and thinking that are relevant to future industry needs. These future needs will be focused on issues around quality assurance, food safety and disease surveillance.

The majority of the current practising profession were educated in veterinary schools when university education was free or when the HECS charges were very modest. Today, the students taking up one of the 70 HECS places in our Faculty pay more than $6,000 per annum and there are 25 local full-fee paying students each year who each pay $22,000 annually. Given these statistics, current salary levels for new graduates of around $32,000 will be increasingly unattractive, particularly when teachers employed by
The Future of the Veterinary Profession (continued from front page)

the State Government will be paid more than $40,000 in their first year out of university. The profession needs to look very seriously at its pricing structures, salary levels and future rewards that will attract the best graduates to remain in practice.

We are living in an age of increasing complexity and rapid change. The information revolution will continue to move ahead of our ability to adapt and we must plan for the future and continually rethink our strategies. Students and the large number of veterinarians who have contributed to teaching the Year 1 students have warmly embraced our new curriculum. We also have received enthusiastic support from veterinarians for initiating visits to Educational Support Practices that involve the Year 1 students in practice issues. About 60 practices in Sydney have lent their support to this new concept. The focus in the new curriculum is to retain the core scientific training but to add key life skills - self-reflection, critical thinking, financial planning, communication and practice management.

We will continue to look ahead and constantly re-evaluate our teaching programme, ensuring that we produce well-rounded graduates who can adapt to the huge changes that future practitioners are sure to face. To assist in this process, I intend to establish an advisory group, called the Veterinary Futures Group, which will help the Faculty to look out to the horizons and embrace the future.

The Veterinary Science Foundation Update

On March 31st, university and veterinary profession identity Dr Jill Maddison was appointed Director of the Veterinary Science Foundation. Jill has been actively involved in the veterinary profession since graduating with honours from the University of Sydney’s Faculty of Veterinary Science in 1978.

Her career began as an intern at the University of Sydney, before spending 18 months in private practice then undertaking a residency in small animal medicine at the University of Queensland in Canada. She returned to Australia in 1983 and completed a PhD at the University of Sydney. Prior to her appointment as a lecturer then senior lecturer in the Department of Pharmacology, she was a senior tutor and clinician at the University Veterinary Teaching Hospital. She currently holds an honorary position in the Department of Pharmacology. In recognition of her services to the veterinary profession she was awarded the ASAVA Distinguished Service award in 1998 and an AVA Meritorious Service Award in 2000.

Jill is now embracing the challenges of communications and fundraising in her new position as Director of the Veterinary Science Foundation. The Foundation was recently relaunched as the fundraising and public relations arm of the Faculty of Veterinary Science. Jill will be responsible for the executive management of the Foundation with a focus on the identification of funding needs and sources and the establishment of links with alumni, the public and industry.

The greatest impediment to the Faculty of Veterinary Science in recent years has been a 60 percent reduction in government funding. The Foundation is seeking to reverse this funding decline as soon as possible to improve the quality of the undergraduate teaching program. It has established a Pet Health Trust which will support the improvement of pet health and welfare through education of young veterinarians, purchase of vital and world class clinical equipment used at the University Veterinary Centres and funding of studies that will improve the diagnosis and treatment of pet diseases. A brochure for the Pet Health Trust is included in this mailing. Alumni wishing to obtain further brochures for their practices should contact Jill (contact details below).

A number of specific fundraising activities are currently being considered including: establishment of a Wildlife Health and Conservation Centre at Camden, support for undergraduate surgical teaching programs, establishing industry funded academic positions, a residency in Animal Behaviour, practitioner in residence programs, support for a radiography and MRI unit, support for production animal reproduction research and, most importantly, refurbishment or rebuilding of the veterinary clinics in Sydney and Camden. All these tasks will take time and many dollars.

The Veterinary Science Foundation would like to hear from any graduates from the Faculty of Veterinary Science who are willing to be profiled in Roundhouse. The Foundation is also endeavouring to update the database of Faculty of Veterinary Science Alumni. Your cooperation in providing any recent address/name changes to facilitate this enormous task would be much appreciated.

Please contact Dr Jill Maddison:
Ph: 02 9351 8024 Fax: 02 9351 8025
jillm@vetsci.uny.edu.au

Pfizer Student Leadership 2000: New Vets for a New Era

Philip Pogson, Program Director

What will a typical veterinary practice look like in 2020? What mix of animals might vets be expected to treat? What leadership and management skills will vets draw upon, and when and how will they upgrade their professional skills? Will vets have continued to branch out into new fields in business, the environment and research and if so, what new employment opportunities will exist?

These and other similar “big questions” have provided something of the focus for the Faculty’s new and highly innovative student leadership program, sponsored by Pfizer Animal Health. Some 21 fourth and fifth year students bravely chose to add the demands of this 8-month leadership program to their already crammed schedules in the year 2000 perhaps with the hope of gaining an edge in a highly competitive employment environment.

As Program Director, I should say that I have probably learned as much as the participants! I had not worked with veterinary students before and I wondered if they would enjoy and respond to the material and exercises I had designed. My concerns disappeared immediately when we first met as a group in February 2000. At a 2-day retreat in the Blue Mountains to “kick off” the Program. I was impressed and humbled by the calibre of those participating - these were intelligent and insightful people with an intense desire to make a contribution to animal health and welfare through developing first-class professional skills. I have since reached back into my somewhat hazy memories of my undergraduate years (I am not a vet) and I am sure I was never as motivated and focussed as the group I had there before me!

Guest speakers and presenters included Mr Johan Rabe, CEO of Pfizer Animal Health Australasia, Professor Reuben Rose, Mr Matt Handbury, Executive Chairman of Murdoch Magazines, Dr Raina Plowright, a young veterinarian who had spent time in Antarctica, Dr Rosanne Taylor, from the Veterinary Faculty, and Dr Gary Werskey, a well-known business consultant.

The retreat has been followed by several professional development seminars on a range of topics, including determining values and personality profiles. In addition, each student has undertaken to complete a project as a way of formally “practicing” the leadership skills and knowledge they have learned. The final leadership challenge the Program offers is the opportunity for the group as a whole to develop a new vision and values for the veterinary profession in 2010. We have set this task because in my view the only way to shape the future is to have a clear view of the direction you believe you should be headed, coupled with a healthy capacity to adjust course as necessary along the way!

The Pfizer Vet Leadership 2000 group will present their vision for the future at the Program graduation on October 26th. I am sure this will be an evening NOT to be missed by anyone with an interest in vet science, and a desire to support the veterinary leaders of the future!
Henry Collins

Planning for the Professional Practice units in the new course has been underway for several years, so the debut of PP1A was an exciting event for both staff and students. The main emphasis in the Autumn semester has been on orienting the new students to the Faculty, University and Profession. They learnt about the history of the profession, the achievements of veterinary science and how veterinarians are registered to practice.

A series of experienced veterinarians provided insights into aspects of their varied careers. The Faculty is greatly indebted to our colleagues for their contributions. Veterinary scenarios provided the opportunity for students to discuss some of the non-scientific issues, especially relating to Animal Welfare. They were also enlightened on effective use of the library, on study skills and in managing their personal finances.

Veterinary Communication was introduced in a 3-hour workshop and this important aspect of practice will be explored more fully in PP1B. The greatest reward for the staff involved in PP1A came when the students submitted their portfolios – the sole means of assessment in this subject. They were asked to carry out 3 assignments: to write an essay on Animal Welfare, provide a report on veterinary employment, and a report on a study of heart rate and temperature in dogs. There was also a self-reflective component where students wrote on several topics such as why they chose to study veterinary science. The portfolios were mostly outstanding and the members of staff who had the privilege of marking them were fully confirmed in the belief that we have the best students in the University. Some of the essays and reports will be made available to the profession through the Faculty website. The next unit, PP1B, will involve visits to Educational Support Practices (ESP) on four occasions to carry out specified tasks relating to Practice Management and Communication, as well as more on Animal Welfare. Professional Practice has had a memorable entry into the veterinary curriculum; we hope the next unit will be as successful.

The Year 2000 Veterinary Alumni Dinner

On a muggy night in February, around 200 veterinary alumni and their partners gathered in the Quadrangle to commence an evening of fun and memories.

Pre-dinner drinks were served near the jacaranda tree and the dinner itself was in the magnificent McLaurin Hall. The Hall held rather distasteful memories for some – being the site of many undergraduate examinations. However, in keeping with the spirit of a true University of Sydney veterinary alumni i.e. never let anything get in the way of a good time, especially examinations past or present, they girded their loins and entered the hall to be greeted by a rather different sight than small desks and stern exam invigators. The hall looked magnificent and the evening was a wonderful success. Many years were represented from 1944 (Keith Baker) to 1999 (Jenny Manyweathers).

The graduating years from 1960, 1970, 1980 and 1990 were invited to make the dinner a focus of their reunion activities. The invitation was taken up with great enthusiasm and the year of 1990 took the honours for being the best represented having over 50 of their year in attendance as well as partners.

The year of 1989 wasn’t far behind with 30 revelers and partners. Other years that turned out in force were the years of 1980, 1970 and 1969 as well as many alumni from the 1940’s, 1950’s, 1960’s and especially the 1970’s.

Ian Kiernan AO, founder of Clean Up Australia and solo round the world yachtman was the after dinner speaker and delighted the audience with his address. David Church was MC and as usual did a magnificent job – his jokes were even funny most of the time. The dinner was brilliantly organized by Jenny Manyweathers with some assistance from Jill Maddison.

The Year 2001 Alumni Dinner will be held in February in conjunction with the Faculty Summer Symposium. The graduating years of 1961, 1971, 1981 and 1991 will be invited to make the event a focus of their reunion activities. Further details will follow later in the year.
Case report
Julius Liptak

Polly, a 5 year old Poodle, had been having problems with her right front leg since playing in the grass at her home in the southern highlands.

Polly had a grass seed removed from beneath her right front leg (axilla) by her veterinarian. However, after five months, she continued to limp and discharged pus from three wounds in her axilla (Figure 1).

There were numerous possible causes for her discharging wounds but migrating grass seeds were the most likely. Unfortunately for Polly, grass seeds are arrow-shaped and hence they only know one way to travel - that's forward. But, from the axilla, the grass seeds could have travelled anywhere including the neck, chest, abdomen, or into the brachial plexus.

Polly was referred to the University Veterinary Centre, Sydney, for further tests and treatment. A specialised radiographic technique, called a sinogram, was used to see exactly where the pus was coming from. A dye was injected into each of the wounds and then her chest was radiographed. This showed an amazing pattern of sinus tracts (Figure 2) spreading beneath her skin in all directions. However, there were three main tracts extending from the axilla at 3, 7 and 11 o'clock.

Polly was taken to surgery where a probe was inserted into these tracts which were then incised open. A large, arrow-shaped grass seed was found in the tract extending from the axilla at 3 o’clock (Figure 3).

It has been 12 months since her surgery at UCVS and Polly is now playing in her backyard without any sign of lameness or discharging wounds. Her only gripe with life is that she no longer gets to play in the long grass!

The staff and students at the UCVS would like to thank Kerry Moran, Polly’s owner, for her generous donation to the clinic. The money is being put toward the purchase of an endoscopic otoscope and digital camera which will prove invaluable for diagnosing problems, including foreign bodies like grass seeds, and illustrating these problems to both students and clients on a television monitor and by hard-copy printouts.

Wildlife Health and Conservation Centre
Tony English

A totally new capability is being developed at Camden, as an integral part of Faculty's increasing involvement with wildlife conservation and management.

The Wildlife Health and Conservation Centre (WHCC) will be established in the facilities on the Camden campus previously used by the University's dog and cat breeding program. The intention is to develop a world class Centre devoted to the health, welfare and conservation of Australia's native fauna, with a Wildlife Clinic which will be used to give veterinary students first hand experience with the treatment and rehabilitation of sick and injured wildlife. In doing so it will provide a clinical service for wildlife carers and others who bring in native fauna for treatment.

In addition to this teaching function, which will support the new Unit of Study in Veterinary Conservation Biology, the Centre will become the focus for most of the Faculty's postgraduate activities with wildlife. This will include a new Applied Science program in Wildlife Health and Population Management, which will be presented jointly by the Faculty of Veterinary Science and the School of Biological Sciences. This is going through the University's approval process at the moment, and all being well should be offered for the first time next year.

The task now is to raise the funding required to commence activities in the Centre and to operate for a period of 3 years. While the intention is for the WHCC to become largely self funding within 3 years it will be necessary to find corporate sponsors for the initial funding, and this task is being tackled by the Veterinary Science Foundation. This is an exciting new development for the Faculty of Veterinary Science, and hopes are high that the necessary funding will soon be available to begin work in the Centre, in facilities which are quite superb.

A Library of Electronic Library: Veterinary Images
Paul McGreevy, Su Handling and David Evans

Learning occurs in many ways, but images presented in books and during undergraduate classes are a powerful stimulus tool.

In late 1999 the Faculty won a Strategic Development Grant from the College of Science and Technology, University of Sydney, to establish a web-based library of electronic images for use by academics in the Faculties of Veterinary Science and Agriculture. Given the acronym LEVI, its objective was to improve and integrate with web-based learning, case studies and didactic presentations to veterinary and animal science students. Still and video images were to be used. These images include, for example, animals in health and disease, husbandry techniques, radiographs, surgical methods and graphs of experimental data. In modern educational terms each image is a learning object. What a teacher or learner does with the resource has no limits. These learning objects are the foundations on which flexible learning programs can be built.

A dedicated web-site has been created for LEVI. In collaboration with the team responsible for the Australian Pathology Database and the Australian Radiology Database and with assistance from the University Library, we have developed a searchable template that allows academic staff to load images onto the web with key words and searchable fields designed to enhance their retrieval.

It is hoped that LEVI will become available to alumni for continuing education purposes and perhaps for use in practice newsletters. If, as is now becoming clear, continuing education begins in the first lecture of the first year of the undergraduate degree course, the advantages to the alumni are clear. LEVI offers the opportunity for a seamless continuum of undergraduate and continued learning in the workplace. The Faculty will ultimately offer LEVI as a resource for media purposes.

With LEVI, teaching in the Faculty will become more integrated and will offer greater diversity in its teaching, learning and assessment. It is anticipated that, subject to copyright negotiations, we will soon be able to accept useful teaching images taken by veterinarians in practice. If you wish to collaborate with this effort simply contact Dr McGreevy at the following email address: paulm@vetsci.usyd.edu.au
New faces at the University Veterinary Centre (Sydney)

**Julian Alexander Lunn**
Clinician

I graduated in 1996 from the University of Sydney. I took up a position at Beaudesert Veterinary Surgeons, a mixed practice, 3 hours south of Sydney in the Southern Tablelands. During that time I also worked at the District Veterinary and was registered for the Bursellos and John's Accreditation Schemes. The caseload was very much mixed practice and included cattle and small animals making up the majority of the work. I stayed with the practice for 18 months after which I moved to the UK to work. I joined a 10 vet, mixed practice in Somerset, working mainly around Bath for a year. The caseload was mainly small animal and dairy practice, then returned to Australia in January of 2000 and resumed work at the Veterinary Centre in March. I ran a service that is primarily primary ascension including general surgery such as spays and castrations.

**Philip A. Moses**
Senior Surgical Registrar

Phil was born in 1962 in Wagga Wagga NSW. He graduated from the University of Sydney in 1986 then worked in mixed practice in Narranabo, Cessnock and Woy Woy before moving to England in 1993. He obtained his certificate in Small Animal Orthopaedic Surgery from the Royal College in 1994 and worked in Orthopaedic referral practice in Birmingham until returning to Australia in 1996. He worked in referral practice at Kesnels Road Veterinary Hospital in Brisbane until joining the University in 2000. He is currently a Senior Registrar in Small Animal Surgery and is working towards completing Fellowship of the Australian College of Veterinary Surgeons. He married Mary Anne Huscott in 1988 a Sydney Graduate and has four beautiful children Ivan, Bob, Ellie and Bill. His special interest is in spinal surgery particularly caudal cervical spondylolisthesis and the stifle joint.

**Nathanial T. Whitley**
BVMS, CertCC, DACVIM (internal medicine), MRCVS, Senior Registrar in Small Animal Internal Medicine

Since graduating from Glasgow University in 1992, Nat has completed a small animal internship at the University of Pennsylvania and a residency in small animal internal medicine at the University of Wisconsin. He has also worked in first opinion and medicine/cardiology referral practice in Britain. He received the RCVS certificate in cardiology in 1997 and American board certification in small animal medicine in 1998. Areas of interest include cardiology, immune mediated disease, hematology and oncology. Outside interests include running, tennis, photography and classical music.

**Dudley E Johnston**
Visiting Professor

DJ is a graduate of the School of Veterinary Science, University of Sydney. After 8 years in his own practice in Hamilton, Victoria, he spent three years as the Ontario Veterinary College establishing the requirements for a training program and a residency in Experimental Surgery and Radiology. In 1994 he was appointed to the new Melbourne Veterinary School as head resident. He moved to Queensland in 1996 and he was offered the position of Professor of Surgery, Head of Small Animal Surgery and Professor of the Small Animal Hospital at the University of Pennsylvania. He accepted this position in 1970. He remained in the position until 1991 when he was asked to help develop the new Veterinary School at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He was appointed Professor of Surgery and Head of Small and Large Animal Surgery, a position he holds today. DJ became a Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Surgeons, in 1968 and 1990, a European College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1993. He was President, then Chair of the Board of Regents of the ECVS from 1996 to 1999. He is currently a Visiting Professor at the University of Sydney for 12 months.

**Martine Perkins**
Medical Registrar

Martine Perkins graduated from the University of Sydney with second class honours in 1996. Since that time she has worked in several small animal practices throughout Sydney in addition to travelling overseas where she worked in the United Kingdom. Martine is currently working at a Small Animal Medical Registrar at the Sydney University Veterinary Centre, a position which she has held for the last eight months. Martine’s special interests are in canine medicine and imaging studies. She is also interested in feline behaviour. Her hobbies are surfing, bush walking and spending time with her pets (of which she has many).

**Carolyn O'Brien**
Resident in Small Animal Medicine

I was born in country Victoria and attended school in Geelong. I graduated from the University of Melbourne School of Veterinary Science in 1994. Since then I have worked in Small Animal private practice both in Australia and the UK. I obtained Membership of the ACVS in Feline Medicine in 1999. Currently I am the Junior Medical Resident in Small Animal Medicine and am undertaking a Masters of Veterinary Clinical Studies. My interests include snow skiing, horse riding, travel, music, theatre and my Burmese cats.
On August 9th - 11th the Veterinary Science Foundation is coordinating Vet Week 2000 for the Faculty. This is a unique mixture of education, entertainment and artistic activities for the students and staff of the Faculty in association with the profession and industry.

Robin Williams from the ABC's Science Show will open the festivities and the JD Stewart Memorial Oration will be given by Prof. Graham Mitchell AO - a highly distinguished graduate of the Faculty who was appointed as an Officer in the Order of Australia for services to science, particularly immunoparasitology.

Vet Week 2000 will also feature the Ralston Purina "Veterinary Occupations and Opportunities" seminar and the Bayer Beyond 2000 Seminar: "Research and Clinical Advances at the Faculty of Veterinary Science" as well as an Award Ceremony, postgraduate poster displays, an art exhibition, a commercial display and a variety of musical performances by the students ranging from medieval music to rock. Faculty alumni are welcome to attend Vet Week - for further information please contact Jill Maddison.

Industry support for Vet Week has been magnificent and the VSF would like to thank our supporters:

**Gold Supporters** - Bayer Animal Health, Ralston-Purina;
**Silver Supporters** - Intervet, Hills, the Postgraduate Foundation, Lyppards;
**Bronze Supporters** - Novartis, VetMed, AVA NSW, Merial, Guild Insurance, The Veterinarian, CSL;
**Pewter Supporters** - Virbac, Boehringer-Ingelheim.

Paul Canfield

It was only natural that James joined his father's private practice; but he soon grew restless and joined the New South Wales Department of Agriculture in 1896. In the same year, he was appointed lecturer in the Elementary Veterinary Science run by Sydney Technical College. It was probably at this time that he realised the necessity for a proper course of training for veterinarians hoping to practice in New South Wales, and was not averse to lobbying the government or Sydney University to this end. By the time that the authorities had been convinced of the need for university veterinary training, and the money had been provided in the form of the David Berry Bequest, James was already Chief Inspector of Stock and Registrar of Brands for the New South Wales Department of Agriculture. However, this did not deter him from accepting the Foundation Chair in Veterinary Science at The University of Sydney in 1909.

As many would know, the first intake of students occurred in 1910. And Professor JD Stewart was there to greet them. He was there to ensure, by hook or by crook, that the school did not close during World War One, and he was there on that day in 1920 when the school achieved Faculty status and he took the title of Dean. His guidance continued, and was needed, throughout the twenties, through the difficult years of the Great Depression, and through the first intakes of female students. He was there cajoling and encouraging until 1939 when, at the grand age of 70, he finally retired. But the 'Old Prof' had not restricted himself to university matters during this period. He had been active in establishing the Veterinary Association of New South Wales and later the Australian Veterinary Association. It was his tireless work to bring about the regulation of the practice of veterinary science, which led to the passage of the Veterinary Surgeons' Act of 1923. This provided further proof of his dedication to the profession.

Although the 'Old Prof' retired at the start of the Second World War, he continued to promote the veterinary profession at every opportunity. Although he didn't expect any reward for this service, the accolades came in the form of Honorary Associate of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and the first Fellow of the Australian Veterinary Association. In 1953, he was one of the first recipients of the Gilruth Prize for meritorious service to the Australian veterinary profession. When he died in 1955, the profession lost one of its most important sons. But his influence lived on through several generations of veterinary surgeons.

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**1950/2000 Vet Graduates Reunion**

In 1950 there was only one graduating Veterinary School in the whole of Australia and New Zealand. Undergraduates entering the course in 1946 were mainly ex-servicemen and those discharged first had had wide and grueling war service.

They were strongly motivated to restart their lives and put 4-5 years of war behind them. With up to 125 students in the early years of the course there were very poor facilities by modern standards. Only a small percentage of students came directly from school.

Notwithstanding these difficulties there were nearly 100 graduates at December 1950 and many of them went on to carve illustrious careers in all facets of veterinary science. "The years the stars fell on" some have said.

These vets are arranging a Reunion at the Vet School on Monday 11 December 2000. The program includes a not too taxing tour of the present facilities, a get-together in the Veterinary Science Conference Centre, a stimulating address by Dean Reuben Rose and lunch. In the evening there will be a very informal Reunion Dinner at St. Andrews College where many of the graduates will be staying.

Wives and partners are most cordially invited and at the time of writing there are 40 attending. We are expecting 50-60 total. Staff members of the era have been invited as guests.

It has been difficult to track down several of the 1950 graduates so would readers please pass this news to all possible.

Bill Gee (02 9669 6493) and Rex Butterfield (02 4759 3942) are coordinators, stewards and starters and will take acceptances right up to barrier time.

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**Faculty Promotions & appointments**

David Hodgson promoted to a Personal Chair
David Church promoted to Assoc. Professor
David Evans promoted to Assoc. Professor
Paul Sheeby appointed as lecturer in Veterinary Anatomy & Pathology.