

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

*The Sydney University Animal Medical Centre capital campaign has reached a major milestone with the projected commencement in late 2002 of Stage 1 of the new clinic development on the Sydney campus.*

The University of Sydney has agreed to match dollar for dollar the first \$1.5 million raised for the campaign, bringing to \$3 million the funds raised to date. The Post Graduate Foundation in Veterinary Science has generously provided \$1 million for the campaign through the Valentine Charlton Bequest, and the Veterinary Science Foundation has secured more than \$500,000 in pledged donations.

Stage 1 will comprise two works packages: demolition of the old stables (by the end 2002) with subsequent construction of the Valentine Charlton Cat Centre, expanded central reception and administration areas, and the installation of a CT Scan. Clinic operations will temporarily move to the new feline centre while the existing consulting areas are upgraded into an accession area for canine patients. Stage 1 is to be completed by the end of 2003.

A Project Users Group, chaired by Pro-Vice Chancellor Professor Don Napper, has been established and met for the first time on 7 March. The Project Manager, Lucas Kallinosis, has been appointed, and tenders are currently out to secure project architects. Facilities Management Office staff, in particular Tracie Harvison and Peter McGeorge, have played crucial roles in the enormous planning and coordination required for this \$8 million development.

To ensure the Sydney University Animal Medical Centre develops into a world class, state-of-the-art facility, a Project Working Group chaired by Associate Professor Max Zuber will be responsible for detailed liaison with the Project Manager and architects, and will consist of staff from all key clinic areas.

To mark this exciting milestone and to officially launch the campaign, the Veterinary Science Foundation is planning a major fundraising event scheduled for late 2002.

### Congratulations Margie!

Margie Roser, Year 2 vet student and Miss Camden Show Girl, was runner up in the finals of the Miss Show Girl judging at the Royal Easter Show.

### Promoting the Sydney Clinic

The staff of the University Veterinary Centre at Sydney have extended their already heavy workloads to successfully manage a series of promotional events designed to raise the profile of the clinic. Media consultant Libby Greig worked with the Veterinary Science Foundation to coordinate media coverage.

### Healthy Pets = Healthy Seniors

More than 30 pets owned by seniors were given free pet health checks at the Sydney Clinic during Seniors Week, 17 to 24 March, a promotion that emphasised the health benefits of owning pets for seniors. Fourth year veterinary students, under the supervision of clinicians, undertook the consultations with seniors and their pets. Media coverage included front page of The Glebe and Inner Western Weekly.

### Oldest Dog and Cat

To further strengthen the link with Seniors Week, the clinic staff helped organise a search for NSW's oldest cat and dog, a promotion that attracted attention in the Sydney Morning Herald Column 8, Radio 2BL and Radio 2UE. The winners were Mrs Murdoch with seventeen and a half year old dog "Montana", and "Agatha", a twenty-four year old ginger cat owned by the Holz family of Camden. The winners will receive a Pet-O-Gram from the Dean and a basket of pet products for ageing pets.

## From the Dean's Desk

On talking to staff and students around the Faculty, I sense even at this early stage of the academic year, signs of stress and fatigue. I understand as I feel stressed and fatigued too! We are halfway through our curriculum change which is a huge task for us and have a lot of work to do for 2003 and 2004. However, things are shaping up well and we should have a lot of the difficult 2003 issues around years 4 and 5 resolved by the end of April.

We had a terrific student award ceremony on 15 March and it was great to meet with students and their parents and have the chance to present an overview of our major Faculty projects. One parent was so impressed with Faculty achievements and planning he sent a cheque this week for \$10,000 to support the work of the Faculty and the Foundation.

We also received great news this week about a grant of \$520,000 over 4 years from the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation to support a postgraduate "on line" program in epidemiology, pathology and veterinary public health. This new program is very important to the future of the profession and it is wonderful to receive this level of support.

In the lead up to our short Easter break, I have been reflecting on the quality of our staff and students. This week I have taught or been into classes in most years and once again I am encouraged and impressed by the commitment and enthusiasm of students and staff. We have exciting times ahead.

## Fur Fang and Feather Festival

Clinic staff Leonie Beadman, Catherine Majorich and Lyza Mouta organised a stall to promote the Sydney Clinic at the South Sydney City Council's annual Fur, Fang and Feather Festival. Other Veterinary Centre staff and students volunteered their time to run the stall which was one of the best-attended at the event. The animal-loving public appreciated the sample bags and give-aways, and the opportunity to speak with our dedicated staff and students.

## Dr Phil Davis

After forty years of service Dr Phil Davis, Senior Lecturer, is retiring. He leaves us with many years of extensive research, undergraduate and postgraduate lecturing, publications and a strong departmental involvement. The Faculty of Veterinary Science extends its sincere best wishes to Phil for his retirement.

Phil graduated a BVSc in 1961 and in 1976 was awarded the MVSc for his thesis *The haematology of the racing greyhound*. He began his career in anaesthesia in the Sydney Clinic, then moved to the position of Senior Lecturer in Veterinary Medicine. Phil has also often worked at the Rural Veterinary Centre at Camden, performing ECGs on horses. Phil's comprehensive career ranged from small to large animal practice, and he also provided external services including Racetrack veterinarian, Thoroughbred Trainers consultant, Pet Food consultant and more recently consultant to the Department of Agriculture Drug Registration.



Dr Phil Davis in earlier years (above) and at the Sydney Clinic (right)



Phil was actively involved in departmental activities including Acting Superintendent in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, and as a member of the Animal Care and Student Liaison Committees.

Phil's published work focused primarily on greyhound medical conditions and his most recent publication is: *Chiropractic manipulation and mobilisation for speed in the racing greyhound. Canine Sports Medicine and Surgery, 1st edition* (1998).

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## 2001 Veterinary Undergraduate Prize Winners

***Congratulations to the following students awarded the 2001 Faculty of Veterinary Science awards for academic achievement.***

**Dean's List 1st Year** - Madeleine Bamford, Anne Dampney, Katherine Howell, Emily Orchard-Mills  
**Dean's List 2nd Year** - Erin Bell, Zara Boland, Timothy Craig, Clare Jones, Tamra Acciari  
**Dean's List 3rd Year** - Katherine Briscoe, Anna Dean, Phillip McDonagh  
**Dean's List 4th Year** - James Blackshaw, Alexa Brown, Tobias Floyd, Christopher Wearne  
**AFUW - River Branch Patricia Stapleton Memorial Prize** - Libby Duhs  
**Australian Equine Veterinary Association Prize to the Top Equine Student in Medicine and Surgery in Final Year** - Murli Baker-Gabb  
**Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association Prize in Medicine and Surgery** - Christopher Wearne  
**Australian Society for Parasitology Prize in Veterinary Parasitology** - Heather Russell, Geoffrey Campbell and Patricia Santos De Oliveira  
**Australian Veterinarians in Public Health Students Prize** - Cindy Burrell and Libby Duhs  
**Auxiliary to the AVA (NSW Division) Prize for 3rd Year** - Belinda Docwra  
**Auxiliary to the AVA (NSW Division) Prize for Cell Biology and Vet Physiology I and II** - Timothy Craig  
**Auxiliary to the AVA (NSW Division) Prize in Animal Genetics** - Zoe Cutcher  
**Auxiliary to the AVA (NSW Division) Prize in Veterinary Clinical Pathology** - Timothy Ahern  
**AVA Prize for Undergraduates in Veterinary Pathology** - Anna Dean  
**AVA Student Award** - Nicole Mahony  
**Baker and Ridley Memorial Prize for Animal Husbandry** - Christopher Wearne  
**Beri Sinkovic Poultry Medicine Prize** - Libby Duhs  
**Chapter of Veterinary Pharmacology of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists Prize in Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology** - Anna Dean  
**Cooper Australia Prize in Veterinary Parasitology** - Adam Gerhardt  
**CW Emmens Prize in Veterinary Physiology** - Anna Dean  
**Epidemiology Chapter of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists Prize in Epidemiology** - Libby Duhs  
**Farr Memorial Prize in Animal Husbandry** - Kimberley MacAdams  
**H.C. Belschner Prize in Sheep and Wool** - Katherine Howell  
**H.R. Carne Prize and Medal for Excellence in the Bachelor of Science (Veterinary) Degree** - Alison Peel  
**J.D. Stewart Essay Prize in Veterinary Science** - Catherine McDermott  
**John Gurner and Frederick Ebsworth Scholarship in Cell Biology 1a** - Anne Dampney  
**John Gurner and Frederick Ebsworth Scholarship in Cell Biology 1b** - Madeleine Bamford  
**John Gurner and Frederick Ebsworth Scholarship in Chemistry** - Katherine Howell  
**K.G. Johnston Prize in Veterinary Clinical Pathology** - Dalya Koch  
**Lonsdale Prize (A) in Clinical Studies** - Tobias Floyd  
**Lonsdale Prize (B) in Clinical Studies** - James Blackshaw  
**Mayne Health Vetnostics Prize in Veterinary Clinical Pathology** - Timothy Ahern  
**N.P.H. Graham Prize in Sheep Medicine** - Cameron Skerman  
**Rex Butterfield Prize in Veterinary Anatomy** - Timothy Craig  
**Richard Norman Sanders Prize** - Cindy Burrell  
**Robert Reeves Hodgekiss Prize for Equine Research** - Nicola Jagger  
**S.T.D. Symons Prize for Clinical Studies** - Libby Duhs  
**Stewart Prize in Veterinary Medicine** - James Blackshaw  
**Virginia Osborne Prize for Anatomy of the Horse** - Timothy Craig  
**W.R. Sidman Memorial Prize Awarded by NSW Division of the AVA for Clinical Studies in 4th Year** - Adam Gerhardt  
**Wally McGreevy Prize in Animal Welfare Science** - Michelle Reed  
**William James McHugh Prize in Equine Medicine or Surgery** - Karen MacAlpine  
**Wires Wildlife Prize** - Cindy Burrell