Registration Day

A day of respectful celebration, excitement and great achievement

The Class of 2014.

Registration Day - the day that all veterinary students at the Murdoch University College of Veterinary Medicine look forward to. Whatever reason they have had for wanting to be a veterinarian they all undertake the same journey to this ultimate goal. Six years of training!

This annual ceremony is the culmination of their years of study – they are able to register as veterinarians. This year some 400 friends and guests of the graduating class attended the event, which was opened by a moving ‘Welcome to Country’ by Dr Richard Walley OAM. Some of the new graduates start working immediately in a local vet clinic, treating the diverse range of pets that cross their paths, some specialise in farm animal work, and some embark on a journey of discovery and research to find solutions to human and animal health problems. Whichever path they do choose, Registration Day is a day to celebrate successes, for new colleagues to show their respect to the profession, for a little retrospective reflection about a hard-earned achievement, and excitement about where this new qualification will take them next.

It is also a day when generous donors show their appreciation of academic and clinical excellence, professionalism, and commitment with 23 prizes awarded to our brand new veterinarians. We congratulate these students, and thank our generous donors for their support.

Our wonderful prize donors for 2014 were: The Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists - Epidemiology Chapter, the Adamson Family, the Alder Family, the Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association, the Australian Veterinary Association, Dr Sue Beetsan, CenVet, Equine Veterinary Association, Hill’s Pet Nutrition, Friends and Family of Bernard McSherry, Dr Ilana Mendels, the friends and family of Don Nickels, Norbrook and VetPrac Workshops, ProVet WA, friends and family of Richard Lee-Gray, family of Charles & Elaine Schug, Triangle Engineering, the University of Sydney Centre for Veterinary Education, The Unusual Pet Vets, and Wellard Group Holdings.

Join us in congratulating and wishing the Class of 2014 all the very best in their new careers.
It is an accreditation requirement that veterinary students at Murdoch are continuously assessed for competency in the many areas required for a veterinary education. Historically this has been a paper-based system which, while functional, was very time consuming to both maintain and collate the resulting data. Staff from the School of Veterinary and Life Sciences, and staff and students from the School of Engineering and Information Technology have collaborated to develop an IT solution to this problem.

The result is a tool which can be used on smart phones as well as desktop computers. Dr Melinda Bell and Dr Cristy Secombe from the College of Veterinary Medicine in the School of Veterinary and Life Sciences worked with Shri Rai, Dr Pyara Dhillon, Dr Kevin Wong and a team of computer science undergraduates from the School of Engineering and Information Technology to develop Comp2Go.

Students can now have an immediate assessment of whether they have reached a particular competency. Dr Secombe says, "It will be much easier for students to see what assessments they’ve received and the areas they need to work on. The tool will also contribute to curriculum design and revision. Educators will be able to identify areas that are not being captured or what students as a group are deficient in and institute change".

Comp2Go will be rolled out as a pilot project across the final year cohort of veterinary students in 2015. An exciting additional benefit is that this software is so flexible it has the potential to assist other skills based training in different disciplines with their competency tracking in the future.

The team responsible for the creation of Comp2Go watching it in action at the Murdoch Equine Veterinary Hospital
The Vet Trust enters a new phase

More time for fundraising for the health and welfare of animals!

The Veterinary Trust has recently undergone some changes to its administration that will mean we can spend more time raising funds for the health and welfare of animals.

In December 2014, the individual trustees of the Vet Trust retired and appointed M.U.F.T. Company Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Murdoch University, as the new sole corporate trustee for the Vet Trust. The board of the new trustee company currently has nine directors who are highly regarded professionals, business leaders, community members, executive level University staff, and also two retired Vet Trust trustees. One of the principal objectives of the new trustee company is to ensure good governance practices.

The ex-trustees of the Vet Trust have been appointed as members of the newly formed Murdoch University Veterinary Trust Advisory Board. This ensures the veterinary professionals, community members, and staff who support the work of the Trust can concentrate on raising funds for the programs and projects that benefit the health and welfare of the animals we all care about.

Donations to the Vet Trust will remain tax deductible. We look forward to your continued support in ensuring the continued health and welfare of our furry friends.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Ellaine Hislop on e.hislop@murdoch.edu, or 08 9360 2699.

Animals supporting animals

Will your pet be the next Vet Trust Animal Ambassador?

At the end of 2014 we launched our new Animal Ambassador program so pet owners and their animal buddies can help enrich the lives of other pets and their owners by promoting and supporting the health and welfare of animals.

We are almost ready to choose our inaugural ambassador, and would love you and your pet to participate. Most of all, we would love you to share their special stories, personality traits, quirky habits or crazy antics. Tell us about your furry (or not so furry) friend’s story, an experience they have been through, or an adventure they have taken. Any type of pet can enter. All creatures great and small – we love them all!

The most important task of the Animal Ambassador is to help spread the word on health and welfare issues that affect animals. We’re sure your pet will agree that this is an important role to undertake. We don’t want to work your pet hard. In fact the hardest work they will do is to have their photo taken by the wonderful people at Studio Noah. And by all accounts, it’s a pretty fun time for all.

To say a big thank you for sharing your pet’s story, we will send each nomination a pack of Studio Noah greeting cards. Plus, the pet selected to be our Animal Ambassador will receive a complimentary Studio Noah photography session and 25x20cm photograph for you to keep. Check out their gorgeous work on their website www.studionoah.com.au

To nominate your pet to be our Animal Ambassador either visit our website http://goto.murdoch.edu.au/AnimalAmbassador, or give us a call and we will be happy to send you a brochure. Please ask your pet if they might like to help us with the very important task of representing their animal friends and send in your nomination!

Vet Gazette news

There are lots of exciting things happening at the Murdoch University Veterinary Hospital and College of Veterinary Medicine that we want to share with you, so this year we are going to trial sending three editions of the Vet Gazette to you.

As well as wanting to share news with you, we want to make as little impact on the environment as possible. To help with this we have chosen to print the Gazette on an environmentally responsible paper.

We hope you like it!

If you would rather receive your Vet Gazette by email from now on, just let us know by using the slip that was enclosed with your newsletter, or email us on vettrust@murdoch.edu.au
Gifts to the Murdoch University Veterinary Trust will improve the health and welfare of animals, today and in the future...

Your donation can fund the next research breakthrough, prepare new veterinarians to deliver world-class care and provide equipment and expertise for the most difficult veterinary cases. 100% of every dollar given goes to key priorities in the School.

Please help us help animals.

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