



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

FACULTY OF  
VETERINARY  
SCIENCE



2009 Annual Report



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## Welcome

Dear colleagues and friends of the Faculty:

I am often asked “what’s new in the Faculty?“, which provides me with the opportunity to list the remarkable achievements of our staff and students in the past year. The frequency with which I am asked this question prompted us to prepare this brief synopsis of activities in the Faculty during 2009. And it has been a remarkable year, featuring celebrations of the centenary of the school’s establishment and a continuing effort to revise and refresh our curriculum as we plan for the introduction of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program. In addition, research continues to be a key activity in which the Faculty is noted for its excellence. The Faculty was successful in attracting over \$6 million in research funding. A number of high profile academics and clinicians have joined the ranks of our staff, there have been major developments in the research and teaching activities in our ruminants section, we received the largest gift ever made to the Faculty, and prestigious international, national, and state prizes awarded to a number of our stellar young staff members. The list of achievements and accolades is too long to include in full in this report, but suffice to say that we should all be immensely proud of the activities and successes of staff of the Melbourne School of Veterinary Science.

I hope that you will read this report with pride in the accomplishments of your school, and with the same sense of excitement for the future that underscores all that we do.

As always, I welcome your thoughts and comments.

**Professor Ken Hinchcliff**

## Our year at a glance...

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### A century of the Melbourne School of Veterinary Science

March 2009 marked the centenary of the opening of the University of Melbourne's Veterinary School: Australia's first university veterinary school. In the 100 years since, the school has trained world-class veterinarians and has made an impact globally, carrying out ground-breaking research, performing surgical firsts and developing new vaccines and technologies that have improved the health of animals and humans. For example, since 1980, Professor Marshall Lightowlers has been part of a team at the University that has developed the world's first effective, non-living vaccine for animal parasites. The Veterinary School also operates the Canine Blood Bank, Australia's only registered supplier of blood cells for pets.

More than 2,000 graduates have passed through the School's doors, including Margaret Keats MBE, Victoria's first woman to graduate with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree in 1923. Margaret was added to the Victorian Roll of Honour for Women in 2008. Many other alumni have contributed in varied ways to the veterinary profession, such as Dr Warwick Bayly (BVSc 1974), who was recently appointed as the Provost and Executive Vice President of Washington State University.

According to the Dean of the Faculty, Professor Hinchcliff, the success of the School can be judged by the contribution that our staff and graduates have made all over the world, enhancing animal health and welfare, improving food safety and quality, and caring for animals that provide companionship to humans.

#### Commemorative dinner

The School celebrated its 100th birthday in grand style with a commemorative dinner on 28 February 2009.

More than 200 past and present students, staff and friends of the Faculty gathered to mark the occasion, wining and dining at the National Gallery of Victoria while catching up with former classmates, lecturers and colleagues.

One of the highlights of the evening was a musical performance by an ensemble of current veterinary science students, who played a piece composed for the evening by third-year student Evie Knight.



Faculty of Veterinary Science students following their performance. From left to right: Xiao Yi Niu; Kate Daymond; Blaine McCracken; Jimmy Chi Cho Pan; and Evie Knight.



Dr Val Sloss and his wife Astra with the Veterinary Centenary Memorial Sculpture 'New Life'

#### Supporting the Faculty

2009 saw the establishment of the Faculty's Advancement Office. This office is responsible for building lasting relationships with those who will advance the Faculty's cause – our alumni, parents, friends and supporters in the community. The Faculty can no longer rely solely on government support to maintain the pre-eminence of this great institution. Support must be secured from the philanthropic sector and private individuals.

Significant success was achieved in advancement in 2009. Of particular note was the Webb endowment of \$4.7million to establish a new professorial Chair in Cattle and Sheep Production Medicine and the \$100,000 raised from alumni and friends in support of the centenary memorial sculpture 'New Life'. Both of these achievements clearly highlight the strength of support the Faculty enjoys from many constituents in the community.

Another key responsibility of the Faculty Advancement Office was to establish a community fundraising campaign for the University Veterinary Hospital (UVH). Following a number of meetings with key staff it was decided to reintroduce the former Friends of uVet Program. Originally conceived by Professor Bruce Parry, the new Friends of UVH will be a platform to engage clients and industry partners of the Hospital with the aim to encourage financial and, where appropriate, in-kind support.

But much more needs to be achieved and hence we have strategies to seek support for scholarships, academic positions and infrastructure. Achievement of these priorities is vital as we continue to address the issues of biosecurity, and veterinary science education and research in Australasia.

#### 'New Life' comes to Werribee

A commemorative sculpture celebrating the centenary of the Melbourne School of Veterinary Science was unveiled on the lawns of the University of Melbourne Veterinary Hospital at Werribee on 28 November 2009.

Alumni, past and present staff and special guests were present to see the Centenary Memorial Sculpture 'New Life' unveiled by Dr Mark Lawrie, President of the Australian Veterinary Association.

Special guests included Dr Val Sloss, on whom the sculpture was modelled, and his wife Mrs Astra Sloss.

#### The Dean's Lecture

Former Dean of the School, Professor Emeritus Ivan Caple, presented an insightful lecture on the historical role of the Melbourne School of Veterinary Science in veterinary education and research in Australia.

Emeritus Professor Caple's presentation was a comprehensive review of the history of the School and included some colourful anecdotes that brought to life the early pioneers of veterinary science in Australia. The presentation will be repeated at the 2010 Australian Veterinary Association conference in Brisbane.

## Our year at a glance...

### OUR RESEARCH

#### Veterinary science researchers receive prestigious awards

Three researchers from the Faculty were among 14 young Australians awarded the 2009 Science and Innovation Awards for Young People in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. The awards were presented by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Tony Burke at Parliament House in September 2009.

Dr Leah Bradbury, a veterinarian at the University, received the top prize for her research into the use of carprofen (a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug) for long-term pain relief in sheep. She received the \$30,000 Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Award and the \$20,000 Australian Animal Welfare Strategy Award, which will allow Dr Bradbury to expand her research into determining the optimal timing and dosing levels for pain management in sheep.

Kylie Hewson, a PhD student in the Faculty, received the Australian Egg Corporation Limited award for her ongoing studies on the avian infectious bronchitis virus vaccine, which can produce a severe reaction in young chickens. Kylie plans to put her \$20,000 grant towards studying a variant strain in the vaccine, with the aim of improving vaccination strategies and the health of Australian poultry.

The Faculty's third award winner, Dr Tracy Stirling, is looking at whether breeding for higher levels of a particular hormone in Holstein bulls can improve fertility of dairy cows. Her project has the potential to significantly improve productivity of individual dairy cows through breeding selection and, as a result, improve industry profitability.

#### Helping animals to take their medicine

Dr Joanne Devlin, veterinarian and lecturer in the Faculty, was one of six young Victorian scientists to win a prestigious 2009 Victoria Fellowship (worth \$18,000), presented on 28 July at a gala function at Government House from the Governor of Victoria, Professor David de Kretser, AC. The fellowships recognise young researchers with leadership potential and enables them to enhance their future careers, while developing new ideas which could offer commercial benefit to Victoria.

Dr Devlin is conducting research into animal herpes viruses in a bid to develop new vaccines to protect mammals and birds from disease caused by this group of viruses. Her research findings have been published in leading international science journals.

Dr Devlin will use her fellowship to work at the Institute for Animal Health in the United Kingdom to learn more about how glycoprotein G interacts with the immune system of birds.

To complement the Victoria Fellowship, Dr Devlin also received a \$5,000 grant from the Australian-French Association for Science and Technology (AFAS) and the Forum for European-Australian Science & Technology Cooperation (FEAST). The grant is awarded to three Victoria Fellowship winners whose research features an environmental element. Dr Devlin will use her AFAS-FEAST France Fellowship to extend her study mission with a visit to researchers at l'Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique in France.



## Our year at a glance...

### OUR RESEARCH

#### Parasitologist receives young scientist honour

The Faculty's Dr Aaron Jex received the Peter Nansen Young Scientist Award from the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (WAAVP). The Peter Nansen award recognises innovative and outstanding work by promising young professionals in the field of veterinary parasitology.

Dr Jex was nominated for the award in recognition of his work on the parasite *Cryptosporidium*, which causes diarrhoea in animals and livestock. He has been working with the Melbourne Water Corporation in an ongoing project aimed at aiding in the prevention of the transmission of disease to humans and improving diagnosis of disease in other animals.

The award also recognised Dr Jex's work in molecular research on a range of important parasitic worms of major agricultural and veterinary importance, including a major sheep parasite, *Haemonchus contortus*; the cattle hookworm *Bunostomum phlebotomum*; and important parasites of dogs, including the canine hookworm *Ancylostoma caninum*, and the roundworm *Toxocara canis*. This research aims to improve fundamental knowledge of these parasites and provides new avenues for the development of better diagnostic tools, which is an essential component to controlling parasitic infections.

Dr Aaron Jex

#### Molecular parasitologist awarded Endeavour Research Fellowship

A postdoctoral researcher from the Faculty of Veterinary Science has received a prestigious Endeavour Research Fellowship from the Australian Government.

Dr Neil Young was one of 184 talented Australians to win the 2010 Endeavour Award, which provides high achieving scholars with the opportunity to undertake research and professional development in the Asia-Pacific or the Middle East. Dr Young will visit institutions in South East Asia to research aspects of parasites that cause liver disease.

Dr Young's research will provide valuable insights into the molecular biology of socio-economically important but neglected pathogens. His findings will lead to radical new ways of controlling diseases caused by these parasites.



### OUR TEACHING

#### Curriculum for the new Doctor of Veterinary Medicine graduate degree

Work has continued in 2009 on the development of the curriculum for the new graduate degree, the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM), which will replace the existing under-graduate Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree. The new program commences in 2010 with the introduction of two second year science subjects – Foundations of Animal Health 1 & 2. The first intake of students to the DVM will be in 2011.

The structure of the DVM curriculum is the outcome of a comprehensive review and revision of the veterinary course. The DVM program will build on students' prior knowledge, incorporating a multidisciplinary, integrated approach to veterinary studies, that provides opportunities for students to apply their understanding to authentic cases, to practise evidence based decision making, to solve clinical problems and to acquire clinical competencies in an ordered and sequential way, from the first year of their course. By the time they reach the final year of the DVM, students will be immersed in a community of best practice in the University's Veterinary Hospital, where the explicit teaching from the lecture theatre, practical class and tutorial room gives way to peer to peer teaching and experiential learning.

In 2009 approval was granted by Academic Board for an Animal Health and Disease (AHD) major within the Bachelor of Science degree (BSc). The subjects that will be undertaken in order to complete the quota limited Veterinary

Bioscience specialisation of this major constitute the DVM1 curriculum. Students successfully completing the Veterinary Bioscience specialisation of the AHD major of the BSc will have guaranteed progression to the DVM, with credit for DVM1. This means that school leavers entering the Bachelor of Science at the University of Melbourne can graduate in six years with both with a BSc and a DVM.



## Our year at a glance...

### OUR TEACHING

#### Lecturer honoured for excellence in teaching

Dr Stuart Barber, Senior Lecturer in the Faculty, was honoured for his commitment to student learning in 2009, receiving the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) Award for Excellence in Teaching.

The award is presented annually, and acknowledges the importance of teaching veterinary science in Australian universities. The accolade recognises Dr Barber's innovative teaching approach including the use of experiential group learning to improve the student learning experience.

Dr Barber teaches first year students a variety of topics including animal nutrition and livestock management. Along with his teaching commitments, Dr Barber is also a well-renowned researcher in the field of farm animal management, diseases and welfare. He is currently working with Poll Dorset sheep breeders to investigate genetic and management factors that influence the development of mastitis in flocks, in the hope of developing better treatment and prevention strategies to reduce production loss and mortality.



Dr Stuart Barber

#### Vets recognised for contribution to veterinary science

Staff and alumni from the Faculty were recognised at the 2009 Australian Veterinary Association's awards ceremony at its annual conference in May. Twenty-three awards were presented across a number of areas, with almost half of those awards presented to current or former staff or graduates of the Faculty.

Staff members Associate Professor James Gilkerson and Professor Colin Wilks and alumnus Dr Ros Nichol were honoured for their outstanding service to the association, each receiving AVA Fellowships in recognition of their contribution. Professor Bruce Parry, the Faculty's Associate Dean of Academic Programs, received a meritorious service award for his efforts in promoting the AVA to veterinary students.

Graduates of the Faculty Drs Carl Muller, David Mason, Kerry Bail and Jane Vaughan also received Meritorious Service Awards, which are awarded for special or long term service to the AVA or its branches. Former staff member Professor Roger Morris was awarded the Kesteven Medal in recognition of his veterinary technical and scientific assistance to developing countries.



Top to bottom: Dr Ros Nichol, Associate Professor James Gilkerson and Professor Colin Wilks.

#### Research funding

Faculty of Veterinary Science researchers, Drs Michael Pyman, Peter Mansell and Andrew Fisher, along with Department of Primary Industries (DPI) researchers and PhD students, have gained funding from DPI worth \$1,120,907 to undertake a project titled "Optimising dairy cow health and welfare within flexible feeding systems". This project

will be carried out primarily at DPI's research farm at Ellinbank, and continues until June 2012. This important study will enhance already strong relationships between the Faculty, the DPI and the dairy industry.



## Our year at a glance...

### OUR TEACHING

#### High profile staff appointments



#### DR SAM LONG

Dr Sam Long joined the Veterinary Hospital in January 2009 as a neurologist and neurosurgeon. Dr Long's main research interests include the development of novel therapies for canine brain tumours, spinal cord trauma, degenerative

myelopathy and epilepsy. His PhD focused on telomerase – an enzyme expressed in the majority of tumours (and the discovery of which recently earned Elizabeth Blackburn the Nobel Prize in physiology). He has further expanded research in the field, to include other genetic markets of canine brain tumours, via a grant from the Canine Health Foundation. Dr Long has also developed a stereotactic brain biopsy frame, which will be used to further the diagnosis and potential treatment of tumours. Collaborative research projects have also commenced with the Florey Neurosciences Institute, St Vincent's Hospital and Royal Melbourne Hospital.

Since arriving, Dr Long has established an active and growing neurology and neurosurgery practice, seeing both medical and surgical neurology patients referred for a variety of disorders including epilepsy, brain tumour, intervertebral disc disease, inflammatory brain disease, hydrocephalus and syringomyelia. The service has been enhanced by the acquisition of state-of-the-art electrodiagnostic equipment, and will be further enhanced by the installation of a 1.5Tesla MRI unit, due to be commissioned in May 2010.

Finally, the neurology section has been recently approved by the European College of Veterinary Neurology as a "specialist training centre", with the appointment of its first neurology resident, Dr Chloe Bowman.



#### DR JO DEVLIN

Dr Joanne Devlin was appointed as Lecturer in veterinary public health in January 2009 at a time when this area of veterinary science is an increasingly important and rapidly

expanding field. Dr Devlin is responsible for teaching, research and knowledge transfer in the area of veterinary public health and food safety.

Dr Devlin has been a post-doctoral research scientist at the Faculty of Veterinary Science since 2006, investigating the pathogenesis and epidemiology of veterinary infectious diseases, including infectious laryngotracheitis virus (ILTV), a herpesvirus which causes respiratory disease in poultry.

Dr Devlin worked in private veterinary practice before joining the Faculty of Veterinary Science in 2003 to undertake a PhD in microbiology. Her studies resulted in the development of a novel candidate vaccine to control disease caused by ILTV in poultry.

Following the completion of her PhD in 2006, Dr Devlin received funding from a number of private, industry and government bodies to continue her studies of ILTV and other veterinary infectious diseases at the University of Melbourne.



#### DR ANDREW FISHER

Dr Andrew Fisher, a Melbourne graduate (BVSc 1989), joined the Faculty in January 2009 as Associate Professor in Production Animal Management and Welfare, following a career working across the globe.

In his role at the Faculty, Dr Fisher is responsible for providing sustainable improvements in animal management and welfare for the benefit of both the farming industries and the community. Dr Fisher is involved in both teaching and research. The new role is co-funded by the DPI, and Dr Fisher works in collaboration with DPI scientists at Ellinbank and Hamilton.

Dr Fisher has been heavily involved in the delivery of the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy and is on the Writing Group for the development of the National Standards for the management of sheep welfare. He is also a past President and past Head Subject Examiner of the Animal Welfare Chapter of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists.



#### DR PADRAIG DUIGNAN

In March 2009, the Faculty welcomed Dr Pádraig (Patrick) Duignan to the position of Senior Lecturer in Veterinary Pathology. Dr Duignan is responsible for teaching veterinary anatomic pathology to undergraduate

veterinary science students, alongside commitments in research and supervising of graduate pathology students.

An expert in marine and wildlife pathology, Dr Duignan's career has taken him across the globe to study an impressive range of animal health subjects, from the immune responses of oysters, to distemper viruses in polar bears, the physiology of sea lions and blue tongue disease in ruminants.



#### DR ROB FURNEAUX

Specialist animal surgeon, Dr Rob Furneaux returned to Australia in 2009 to take up a position as small animal surgeon at the University's Veterinary Hospital in Werribee.

Dr Furneaux qualified as a specialist surgeon in 1973 and since then has practised as a specialist both in academia and in private referral practice, performing both small and large animal soft tissue surgery. He has a particular interest in clinical diseases of the liver, biliary tract and the larynx.

Dr Furneaux's most recent appointment was as Head of Soft Tissue Surgery at the Animal Health Trust in the UK. Here he ran an active research program, managed a referral soft tissue surgical case load and supervised postgraduate students preparing for their speciality examinations.

## Our year at a glance...

### OUR CLINICAL SERVICES

#### Equine Centre response to Black Saturday

The Equine Centre had a busy January in 2009 and was greatly saddened, along with all Australians, to see the devastation created by the Black Saturday bushfires. The Centre's vets were fortunate enough to be able to assist horses, ponies and donkeys, so that distressed owners and caretakers could at least be relieved of that concern. The staff at the Equine Centre and in other parts of the Hospital, notably the imaging centre, worked tirelessly to assist these animals. Many organisations and individuals also generously provided additional support to the Centre to contribute to the relief effort.

The Centre opened its doors to provide free emergency medical care to hundreds of animals who were burnt and/or suffering from smoke inhalation. Treatment of these animals has included hosing, antimicrobial cleaning of skin, topical wound dressing of superficial burns, replacement of body fluids, maintenance of blood pressure by intravenous administration of medications and antibiotic protection against infection. Some horses suffered serious dehydration and shock and required intensive treatment. Fortunately, most horses were able to recover.

#### New MRI for Veterinary Hospital

The project to install a Magnetic Resonance Imaging unit in the Hospital commenced in 2009. The unit will feature a 1.5T Tesla MRI which offers an important improvement in image quality and reduction in time to acquire images over the conventional 0.4-0.6 Tesla units used in veterinary practice. This unit, as an addition to the more conventional imaging modalities available in the Veterinary Hospital, will provide Victoria with state of the art imaging facilities for animals. The unit will also benefit research activities in the Faculty.

#### Veterinary Hospital offers specialist neurology service

Dr Sam Long is the only certified specialist veterinary neurologist practising in Victoria, and one of only two in Australia. In August 2009 he performed surgery to remove a slow growing brain tumour from a six-year-old dog – a surgery made possible by the Hospital's sophisticated neurosurgical facilities.

Brain tumours are slightly more common in dogs than in humans, occurring in around 14 to 15 dogs per 100 000 at risk. Without treatment, dogs with brain tumours commonly die within a month of diagnosis.

Pet owners are often unaware of the options now available to treat their pets for conditions such as tumours, and the University Hospital offers an outstanding level of care and expertise, including sophisticated imaging and surgical facilities and an intensive care unit.



## Our year at a glance...

### OUR KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

#### Pet owners and aspiring veterinarians visit Werribee Veterinary Hospital

Aspiring veterinarians, animal lovers and community members visited the Veterinary Hospital for the annual Veterinary Science Open Day in March 2009.

The Guide Dog Association, the cattle display and the Victorian Ferret Society drew large crowds, while the career advice lectures were filled to overflowing throughout the day. Prospective students were able to speak one-on-one with teaching staff to find out more about studying veterinary science.

For pet owners, Open Day was a chance to go behind the scenes at the state-of-the-art facility, with plenty of interactive displays in the equine wards, parasitology laboratory and small animal surgery facility.



#### \$4.7m boost for cattle and sheep Chair

A gift of \$4.7 million – the residual estate of two farming brothers from Seymour – was presented to the Vice-Chancellor and Dean of Veterinary Science at the University of Melbourne in August 2009. The gift will be used to establish an endowment for a new Chair in Cattle and Sheep Production Medicine in the Faculty.

The brothers, EMC “Cappur” Webb and RC “Dick” Webb, served together for four years in the 2/4th Field Regiment during World War II. After the war, they returned to Seymour where they each established highly successful grazing operations at Glendoxey (1,400 hectares) and Habbies Howe (4,250 hectares). Between them the brothers built a flock of 11,000 fine Merino sheep and 1,000 head of Hereford cattle, prospering especially during the wool boom of 1950-53, when the price of wool famously reached “a pound for a pound”.

The brothers taught farming skills to many jackaroos and were known as tough, but fair, bosses. Local identities in the Seymour area, Dick Webb later became President of the Graziers’ Association of Victoria and President of the Australian Club, and served on the Seymour Shire Council for 12 years.

The endowment was negotiated by the Dean of the Faculty, Professor Ken Hinchcliff, who presented to the Trustees of the Estates his vision for a program in cattle and sheep production medicine.

#### Vet training scheme to increase dairy industry health services

A collaboration between the Faculty, the Gardiner Foundation, Dairy Australia and three veterinary practices was launched in 2009, which aims to build veterinary capacity in the dairy industry through advanced training of vets at some of Victoria’s major dairy veterinary clinics.

Building on a successful thirty year partnership between the University of Melbourne and the Maffra Veterinary Centre, the project will provide training for three dairy

veterinary residents in rural practices. The residents will undertake farm based research, clinical work and teaching of undergraduate veterinary students from the University of Melbourne, while receiving advanced clinical training.

In the short term the project partners hope to deliver better training of undergraduate students through exposure to expert dairy practice, along with high quality research relevant to the dairy industry. The project’s long term objective is to enhance veterinary capacity through training of the next generation of advanced dairy practitioners.



## Our year at a glance...

### OUR STUDENTS

#### Hat trick of vets for the Norman family

For one veterinary science graduate, the end of the 2009 academic year made it three University of Melbourne veterinarians in the same family.

As a young girl growing up in Alexandra, Kate Norman was surrounded by animals. Her father ran the town's mixed vet practice, ensuring his daughter had an ever changing roster of pets to play with: horses, cows, pigs, sheep, ducks, geese, cats, goldfish, rats – even hermit crabs. Working as his unofficial assistant, she would feed magpies and calves or help look after newborn kittens and the odd baby wombat, so perhaps it was inevitable she would one day follow in his footsteps.

For Kate, the choice of university was easy too. Not only had her father, Doug

(BVSc 1983) trained at the University of Melbourne, her older sister Sarah (BVSc 2007), who now works at a mixed practice in Wangaratta, was already studying veterinary science at Melbourne. She was also aware of the University's reputation for producing high-quality veterinarians and providing opportunities to work in the field, which proved to be her favourite part of the course.

Perhaps the biggest test of her new skills came earlier in 2009 when she took temporary leave from university to help out with the Black Saturday recovery at her father's practice. Ms Norman worked to help apply and change bandages, oversaw pets on intravenous fluid therapy and, crucially, offered emotional support to those affected by the fires. Almost a year on, some of the animals she treated are still being monitored for chronic problems, but the majority have fully recovered.



The Norman Family

Scholarship recipients Kate Gordon (4th year), Melissa Westhead (3rd year), Felix DeNatris (1st year), Katherine Adams (2nd year) and Karienne Black (1st year).



#### Rural scholarship recipients

Felix DeNatris, from Wangaratta, was the 2009 recipient of the Rural Veterinary Student's Scholarship, while Karienne Black, from Benalla, received the Noble Stewart-Hamilton Scholarship. Both scholarships aim to help students from rural or regional areas overcome the financial hardships they face in moving to and studying in Melbourne.

Both students have settled in to life in Melbourne, after juggling the challenges moving from the country brings. The students

have adjusted to leaving family, friends and pets, and encountered the world of finding rental accommodation and negotiating the public transport system.

The Rural Student's Scholarship was set up by retired veterinarian Dr Bill Riches and his wife Jenny Riches and was awarded for the first time this year. Along with helping vet students from the country, the Riches hope that the fund will go some way towards addressing the shortage of vets in rural areas.



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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

**For further information, please contact the School of Veterinary Science.**

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Authorised by the General Manager, Faculty of Veterinary Science, 2010.

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