

1880



William Tyson Kendall MRCVS arrives in Melbourne. He is acknowledged as the founder of the veterinary profession in Australia.

1894

Examiners, staff and students of the Melbourne Veterinary College 1894.



1908



The famous Australian painter, Frederick McCubbin, is commissioned by students and graduates of the Melbourne Veterinary College in Fitzroy to paint a portrait of William Tyson Kendall. The painting is currently displayed in the Dean's office at Werribee.

1888

Veterinary education commences in Melbourne at the private Melbourne Veterinary College in Fitzroy after the passage of the Veterinary Surgeons Act in December 1887. The Veterinary College is lead by William Tyson Kendall MRCVS from 1888 until 1908.

1906

Belle (Isabelle) Bruce Reid GMVC is the first and only woman to qualify from the Melbourne Veterinary College.

1909

The last year that students graduate from the Melbourne Veterinary College in Fitzroy.

Students enrolled at the Melbourne Veterinary College in Fitzroy transfer to the Bachelor of Veterinary Science course at the University of Melbourne after an Act of the Parliament of Victoria (no. 2174, 2 March 1909). This move makes the School at the University of Melbourne the first university veterinary school in Australia.

Portrait of William Tyson Kendall presented to the Chancellor of the University of Melbourne at a function on 30 March 1909, and an address is presented to Kendall acknowledging his outstanding career as the pioneer of veterinary education in Australia from 1888 to 1908.



The first Bachelor of Veterinary Science degrees are awarded.

1909

1909



John Anderson Gilruth appointed as the first Professor of Veterinary Pathology, Dean, 1909-1912.

1913

Harold Addison Woodruff – Dean, 1913-1915 and 1918-1931

1916

Alfred J Ewart – Dean, 1916 and 1932-1937.

1923



Margaret Keats MBE, BVSc is Australia's first woman to graduate with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree.

1938

Samuel MacMahon Wadham – Dean, 1938.



William John Young – Dean, 1939-1941.

1962

Professor Douglas Charles Blood appointed to Chair in Veterinary Science, later changed to Chair of Veterinary Medicine, and commences planning the redevelopment of the School of Veterinary Science, the recruitment of staff, and the design of the BVSc curriculum. First administrative office of the re-opened Veterinary School is established in a terrace house at 36 Story Street, Parkville.

1919

The first Master of Veterinary Science degrees awarded.

1928

The BVSc degree at the Veterinary School at the University of Melbourne is suspended; subsequently, only the first year is taught at the University.

1939

1942

Roy Douglas Wright – Dean, 1942-1962.



1966

The Veterinary Clinic and Hospital admits its first patient on 4 January 1966.

1964 Construction of the Veterinary Science building commences at the Pre-Clinical Centre, Parkville.



Douglas Charles Blood – Dean, 1963–1968. The Veterinary School re-opens in response to the requests from Victoria's animal industries to the State Government for more locally trained veterinarians. First class of students commence the 5-year BVSc course.

1963

1965

Building commences on the core section of the Veterinary Clinic and Hospital, and on Kendall Hall. Premier Henry Bolte opens the Pre-Clinical Centre at Parkville.

1967



The Veterinary Clinical Centre at Werribee is officially opened by Premier Henry Bolte on the 27 of November 1967.

The first class of the re-opened Veterinary School graduate. 38 students graduate, with 33 of these graduates being male.

First PhD awarded to Dr Rupert Herd. Students move into Kendall Hall on 22 August 1967.

In 1967, students in their final year would have paid \$1,700 in tuition fees. These were paid by the Commonwealth Scholarship held by some students, or by the cadetships provided by the State or Commonwealth Departments of Agriculture.



1978

The Rural Veterinary Centre at Maffra is established (operated in association with the Maffra Veterinary Practice). It specialises in dairy cattle medicine and production.



Kenneth VF Jubb – Dean, 1969–1990.

1969

1973

Masters of Veterinary Studies degree established.

1983

The Mackinnon Project is established with the support of the Scobie and Claire Mackinnon Trust. The Project Centre provides undergraduate teaching, graduate training, and research and consultative services to the sheep and beef cattle industries.

1986

The Racehorse Performance Testing Laboratory is established. It houses a treadmill used to measure physiological responses to exercise.

The old Melbourne Veterinary College building in Brunswick Street, Fitzroy is registered with the National Heritage Trust of Victoria. Professor Blood unveils a plaque to commemorate this occasion.

Melbourne University Veterinary Society (MUVS) is established as the alumni organisation of the Faculty.



The Equine Clinical Research Unit is established at Werribee.

1985

Department of Veterinary Clinical and Hospital is established. From 1966 to 1986 the hospital had been a Unit of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences.

1986

1988

The centenary of the establishment of the first veterinary surgeons board of Victoria in 1888, and the commencement of teaching at the Melbourne Veterinary College established by William Tyson Kendall in Brunswick Fitzroy are celebrated.



First accreditation visit by the Australasian registration boards.

1988

1989

Faculty re-structured with the Department of Veterinary Science replacing three former departments of Pre-clinical, Para-clinical, and Clinical Veterinary Science.

1990

Centre for Animal Biotechnology is established.

1991



Professor Virginia Studdert is the first female veterinarian to be appointed to a Chair at an Australian Veterinary School.

Student computer laboratory established at Werribee.



1991

Ivan W Caple – Dean, 1991–2006.

1993

Centre for Equine Virology is established.



1994

Second accreditation visit by the Australasian registration boards.

1997

The Faculty makes the decision to increase the student intake from 50 to 120.



1998

A new BVSc curriculum is implemented, with a three-month lecture free elective established as part of the new program.

2000

Third accreditation visit by the Australasian registration boards.

2001

JA Gilruth Library opened by Chancellor Fay Marles – 14 May 2001.



2002

First stage of the Equine Centre opened by Chancellor Fay Marles at Werribee – September.



2003

150th celebration of the University of Melbourne.

2004

Major building works commence at Parkville and Werribee to provide facilities for 120 students in each class.

2006

American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) accreditation received – 3 October 2006.

Belle Bruce Reid Honour Roll established by the University of Melbourne. Citations are included of 100 female veterinarians who qualified in Australia, or who arrived from overseas.

Fourth accreditation visit by the Australasian registration boards.

Veterinary Clinic and Hospital reception opened by Wyndham City Councillors.



Consultative site visit by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

2007



Ken Hinchcliff – Dean

Fortieth year reunion for class of 1967.

Recycled water to Werribee campus officially switched on.



2008

In February 2008, the Veterinary School decides to adopt the Melbourne Model. This involves a review of the veterinary curriculum and the introduction of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, with the first intake of students scheduled for 2011.

First graduating class of more than 100 BVSc students; 110 students graduate, and 95 of these graduates are women.



First White Coat Ceremony held by a Veterinary School in Australia.

2008

University of Melbourne
Veterinary School Centenary



2009

100 years since the opening of the University of Melbourne Veterinary School.

2009

1 January 2009 – the School of Veterinary Science established under Regulation 6.1R7 is renamed the Melbourne School of Veterinary Science.