

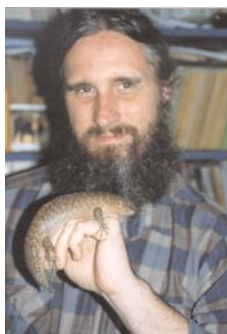
r u m e n a t i o n s

Congratulations to Dr Glenn Shea, Mr Greg Hogan and Ms Irene van Ekris, chosen from a large number of nominations as the recipients of the Faculty of Veterinary Science 2002 Teaching Awards.

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The prizes, valued at \$2,000 each, were awarded for teaching excellence in both Academic and Clinical Staff (Glenn Shea) and Technical and Administrative Staff (Greg Hogan and Irene van Ekris).

The 10 veterinary students who nominated Lecturer Dr Shea for his award wrote: "As a lecturer in the anatomy of domestic species, birds and wildlife, Dr Shea's meticulous attention to detail and his impressively comprehensive anatomical knowledge have set a benchmark for professionalism and academic excellence that many of his students now aspire to. Dr Shea is a gifted communicator with students, readily distilling his detailed anatomical knowledge into clear and concise explanations. The learning experience in Dr Shea's classes is comprehensive, inclusive and encouraging". The students commented on Glenn's willingness to sacrifice his own time for voluntary additional teaching and his innovative teaching techniques, including his "lizard of the day" interludes, which "educate students on unusual and endangered species, and foster a creative and interactive learning environment".



Anne Quain

commendation from a visiting senior academic: "My activities have included weekly sessions teaching fifth year veterinary students Equine Dentistry at the Horse Unit managed by Greg Hogan. In my 27 years in academia, I have never seen a technical staff member who was more interested and effective in helping veterinary students to learn. Greg can turn an ordinary laboratory session into a remarkable learning experience for students". Thirteen students commended Greg's classes as "keenly attended and extremely valuable learning experiences", giving Greg accolades for his wealth of practical experience, absolute commitment to the safety of both students and horses, concern for the well-being of the horses, and ability to instill confidence in the most inexperienced students.

Although a member of the general staff and the manager of the Faculty's Publications Unit, Ms Irene van Ekris, Senior Technical Officer, Animal Nutrition, has completed a Graduate Certificate in Higher Education and for many years has taught units of study in Agriculture and Veterinary Science, including Animal Nutrition and Animal Science. She received the following commendations: "Irene is consistently willing to be involved in activities related to teaching, from offering advice and sitting on committees to lecturing and course coordination. Her involvement is active and enthusiastic and a great inspiration to other members of staff... her work is carried out in a modest and cheerful manner, with the attitude that nothing is too difficult... (she is) well loved by the students and staff alike, and ensures that students receive an enriching experience under her guidance".



Mr Greg Hogan, Supervisor, Horse Unit, pictured above with fifth year student, Claire Hawkes, received the following

From the Dean's Desk

Twenty-two senior members of the Faculty met during November to consider the key issues facing the Faculty in 2003 and to look ahead to the next 10 years. The nine key areas of the 2003 operational plan are:

Quality Assurance/AVMA Accreditation – detailed plans developed for the AVMA visit in April 2003; **Curricula and Teaching** – including the new curriculum for Years 4 and 5, the Thyne Reid Teaching Innovation unit; **Infrastructure and Facilities** – infrastructure plan developed; **People: staff, students, training, morale** – continuation of leadership development; **New Programs** – launch in February 2003 of the new postgraduate program in veterinary public health management, proposal for a new degree in animal/veterinary biosciences; **Research and Commercialisation** – including better alignment of research resources, review of IP; **Clinics** – business plans established for Sydney and Camden Clinic major units; **Fundraising** – the Veterinary Science Foundation's 2003 focus includes capital building campaigns in Sydney and Camden; **Linkages** – optimising Faculty support through internal and external stakeholders.

Visiting Equine Dentist



Professor Leon Scrutchfield and international intern Dr Arun Ramachandram performing a dental procedure on a horse at Camden.

Distinguished scholar Professor Leon Scrutchfield from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A and M University has spent the past three months at the University Veterinary Centre Camden. Professor Scrutchfield is Chief of Field Services at his University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital and a world leader in his field. During his stay he has provided small group tutorials for final year students, clinicians and postgraduate students (and was the final year invited external examiner in Horse Medicine and Surgery), and also conducted a 2-day practical equine dental workshop in Grafton for practitioners from around Australia.

Student Ingenuity



Fourth year students Anthony Butchers (R) and Simon Ibbotson (L), have given fellow student Avril Baird's 13 year old dog Teddy the chance to be mobile again. Teddy was unable to use his hind legs at birth but intensive physiotherapy

by Avril enabled him to bear weight and walk independently, if imperfectly. Teddy's condition – myelodysplasia was diagnosed by myelogram in 1993 at the University Veterinary Centre Sydney – began to deteriorate again 18 months ago and Anthony, with Simon's assistance, built a lightweight cart from a design originating in Adelaide. The prototype, made from broomsticks, pram wheels and wood was produced completely from recycled material found at a council clean up. Avril praises Anthony and Simon's resourcefulness, ingenuity and kindness and says the 'dogmobile' has given Teddy a new lease on life and excellent mobility.

Staff News

Associate-Dean for Staff and Students Chis Maxwell has been promoted to Professor.

This rigorous process requires the candidate to be outstanding in teaching (extension and communication of knowledge and understanding), research/scholarship/creative work at an international level and service to the University, discipline and profession.

Senior Lecturer Dr Rosanne Taylor has been promoted to Associate Professor.

Professor Alan Husband will commence as Associate Dean for Research from 1 January 2003.

Four members of the Faculty were part of a November presentation by the Vice-Chancellor recognising staff who have given long service to the University – **Richard Malik** (15 years) and **Robert Dixon, Dorothy Lewis** and **George Tsoukalas** (all 20 years).

Contact the newsletter team on email vsf@vetsci.usyd.edu.au, or phone Jennie Churchill, Director of the VSF on 9351 8024, or Denise Popovic, VSF Communications Coordinator on 9351 8026.