

---

## **FARM ANIMAL & VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF - 2010**

---

### **ACADEMIC STAFF**

Dr Joy Becker  
Dr Douglas Begg  
Dr Katrina Bosward  
Dr Richard Callinan  
Dr Brendan Cowled  
Dr Michelle Dennis  
Dr Kumudika de Silva  
Dr Navneet Dhand  
Dr Om Dhungyel  
Dr Robert Dixon  
Emeritus Professor John Egerton  
Professor David Emery  
Dr Priti Goswami  
Dr Peter Groves  
Dr Alison Gunn  
Dr Marta Hernandez-Jover  
Associate Professor John House  
Associate Professor John Humphrey  
Dr Karren Plain  
Dr Auriol Purdie  
Ms Luzia Rast  
Dr Mike Rimmer  
Dr Jan Slapeta  
Dr Jenny-Ann Toribio  
Ms Meg Vost  
Professor Michael Ward  
Professor Richard Whittington  
Professor Peter Windsor

### **HONORARY ASSOCIATES**

Dr Mike Cannon  
Dr Jeff Eppleston  
Dr David Jordan  
Mr Matt Landos  
Dr Joan Lloyd  
Dr Stephen Page  
Associate Professor Helen Scott-Orr

### **ADJUNCT PROFESSOR**

Dr Ian Lean

### **TECHNICAL & SUPPORT STAFF**

Ms Adelyn Bolithon  
Ms Nicole Carter  
Mrs Pabitra Dhungyel  
Mr Craig Kristo  
Mr Greg MacNamara  
Mrs Rebecca Maurer  
Mrs Denise McDonnell  
Mr Jesse McIvor  
Ms Marion Saddington  
Ms Natalie Schiller  
Mr Ankit Srivastava  
Mr Nobel Toribio  
Mrs Alison Tweedie  
Mrs Anna Waldron  
Mr Lee White  
Mrs Ann-Michele Whittington  
Mrs Karen Williams

---

**Dr Joy Becker**

Senior Lecturer, Aquatic Animal Health & Production

**Qualifications**

1999 BSc (Hons Zoology)  
2004 PhD (Fish Health)  
2010 Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies  
(Higher Education)

**Career History**

2004 - 2005 Atlantic Veterinary College  
2005 - 2007 University of Tasmania  
2007 - present University of Sydney

**Professional Distinctions**

2005 Governor General of Canada Academic Gold Medal

**Research Interests**

Joy holds a Bachelor of Science in Zoology from the University of Western Ontario (Canada) and a Doctor of Philosophy in Fish Health from the Atlantic Veterinary College (Canada). Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Sydney, Joy completed Post Doctoral Fellowships in aquatic animal health at the University of Tasmania and the Atlantic Veterinary College. Her research interest pertains to the pathobiology (including aspects of disease transmission, control strategies and epidemiology) of pathogens affecting the commercial culture of aquatic species, specializing in salmonids. Joy has extensive academic training in fish physiology and health, epidemiology and biostatistics. Previously, her research has centred on protozoan parasites of farmed salmon and since joining the team at Camden, Joy has been researching viral pathogens and their impact on farmed and wild fish health.

Joy is currently involved in research collaboration with the NSW Department of Primary Industries and the Murray Darling Basin Commission investigating the epidemiology and susceptibility of native fish to EHN virus, an OIE listed pathogen with the potential to significantly affect native populations of fish in the Murray system. Joy is the Unit Co-ordinator for the Aquaculture unit of study (AVBS 4009) and is involved in teaching aquaculture health and production in both the Bachelors of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience and Veterinary Science programs.

---

**Dr Douglas Begg**

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

**Qualifications**

1996 BSc  
1997 Diploma for Graduates  
2000 MSc  
2005 PhD

**Career History**

1993 – 2004 University of Otago  
2005 - present University of Sydney

**Research Interests**

After completing his BSc majoring in Zoology, Doug went on to do a Diploma for Graduates with a major in Microbiology. From 1998 - 2000 Doug completed his MSc in the Disease Research Laboratory at the University of Otago, New Zealand. Staying within the Disease Research Laboratory for his PhD studies, Doug went on to look at experimental infection models for *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis* which causes Johne's disease in sheep.

Doug joined the Farm Animal and Veterinary Public Health Group in 2005 and is continuing to study the pathogenesis of Johne's disease in sheep and cattle as well as advising on developing animal models for disease and immunological studies carried out in other species of farmed animals.

---

---

**Dr Katrina Bosward**

Senior Lecturer in Veterinary Microbiology

**Qualifications:**

1991 BSc (Vet), BVSc  
2000 PhD  
2001 Grad Dipl Vet Clin Sci  
2003 Grad Cert (Higher Ed)

**Career History:**

1991 – 1999 Veterinary practice  
1995 – present The University of Sydney

**Research Interests:**

Following the completion of a BSc(Vet) in 1990 and BVSc in 1991 at the University of Sydney, Katrina worked in mixed and small animal veterinary practice. Katrina returned to the University of Sydney in 1995 to undertake a PhD in collaboration with CSIRO, Animal Production entitled “Eosinophils and Interleukin 5 in Sheep”. On completion of her PhD, Katrina commenced training in Clinical and Anatomical Veterinary Pathology and Microbiology at the University Veterinary Centre, Camden earning a Graduate Diploma in Veterinary Clinical Studies. She was been employed as Lecturer in Veterinary Pathology in the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Sydney from 2002 to 2006 and transferred to the position of Senior Lecturer in Veterinary Microbiology in 2007. She is a member of the Farm Animal and Veterinary Public Health group with research interests including: *Mycoplasma spp.* and *Streptococcus agalactiae* as causes of mastitis in dairy cattle; prevalence of Q Fever exposure in animals and humans; changes in antimicrobial sensitivity patterns of bacterial isolates from companion animals (dogs, cats, horses); wound healing in mulesed sheep and alternatives to controlling blow fly strike in sheep; Staphylococcal Superficial Pyoderma in dogs; chronic feline kidney disease (aetiology); and snake envenomation in dogs

---

**Dr Richard Callinan**

Senior Research Fellow

**Qualifications:**

1967 BVSc(Hons)  
1972 MVSc  
1998 PhD  
2002 MACVSc (Aquatic Animal Health)

**Career History:**

1968 – 1969 Victorian Department of Agriculture  
1970 – 1972 University of Melbourne  
1980 – 1981 Commonwealth Department of Primary Industry, QLD  
1981 – 1990 NSW Department of Agriculture  
1990 – 2004 NSW Fisheries  
2005 - 2006 James Cook University  
2007 – present The University of Sydney

**Research interests:**

Dick graduated with a BVSc from the University of Melbourne in 1967, commencing his career with the Victorian Department of Agriculture undertaking laboratory work before moving to Queensland where he took up the role of Veterinary Officer with the Commonwealth Department of Primary Industry. He then moved to the NSW government laboratory at Wollongbar to continue with diagnostic work involving domestic mammals, poultry and wildlife. Whilst at Wollongbar Dick moved to NSW Fisheries where he took leadership of the Aquatic Animal Health Unit and was Project Leader for international and domestic research projects on aquatic animal diseases, laboratory investigations of aquatic animal disease outbreaks. He was also technical advisor on aquatic animal disease control policies in NSW.

Dick's special interests are in characterising aquatic animal disease processes at individual animal and population levels, developing and implementing science-based health management programs for aquatic animals and managing aquatic animal research and development projects in regional countries. Dick joined the Faculty in June 2007 to coordinate the project funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) in Indonesia for improving productivity and profitability of smallholder shrimp aquaculture and related agribusiness. Previous to this Dick had coordinated another ACIAR project from James Cook University for the development and delivery of practical disease control programs for small-scale shrimp farmers in Indonesia, Thailand and Australia.

---

---

**Dr Brendan Cowled**

Research Fellow

**Qualifications:**

1997 BVSc (Hons)  
2008 PhD  
2009 MACVSc (epi)

**Career History:**

1997 - 2004 Clinical practice in NZ, UK, Aust.  
2004 - 2006 PhD student and Project Officer,  
Invasive Animals CRC and  
The University of Sydney  
2006 - 2010 Senior Veterinary Officer/Epidemiologist,  
Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)  
2010 The University of Sydney

**Research Interests:**

Brendan researched the ecology, molecular ecology and management of feral pigs during his PhD thesis. His work at DAFF included development of applied simulation models for disease transmission in feral pig populations. He returned to the University of Sydney in 2010 with the FA&VPH group for an ARC linkage project to generate empirical data and inferences on endemic disease transmission in feral pigs. This information will be used to understand wildlife disease transmission, and to parameterise simulation models and enhance preparedness plans for emergency disease outbreaks in wild vertebrate populations such as feral pigs. Brendan has also worked extensively in other areas of veterinary public health such as in outbreak response (especially equine influenza), overseas biosecurity development, national surveillance programs and in emergency disease preparedness.

---

**Dr Michelle Dennis**

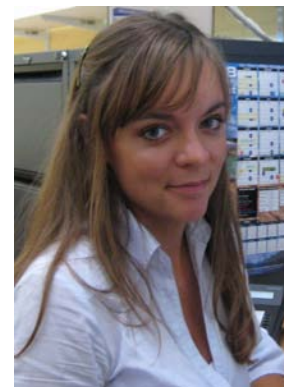
Senior Lecturer in Veterinary Pathology

**Qualifications:**

2002 DVM  
2005 DACVP  
2007 PhD

**Career History:**

2002 - 2007 Colorado State University  
2007 - present The University of Sydney

**Research Interests:**

Michelle received a DVM from Purdue University in 2002. She completed a residency training program in anatomic pathology at Colorado State University and became a diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Pathology in 2005. Her dissertation in veterinary pathology and epidemiology, which focused on surveillance and diagnosis of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies of domestic animals, was accomplished at Colorado State University in 2007 while working closely with the United States Department of Agriculture - Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health. These works included developing a national surveillance plan for bovine spongiform encephalopathy, examining the effects of sampling conditions on accuracy of tests for chronic wasting disease, and an evaluation of a rectal biopsy immunohistochemistry test for antemortem scrapie diagnosis. Her current research addresses the pathogenesis of bovine and ovine paratuberculosis, ovine footrot, and infectious diseases of fish. She is particularly interested in the host responses associated with extra-intestinal infection of *Mycobacterium avium* subspecies *paratuberculosis* infection in cattle and sheep, and in the progression of lesions of bovine and ovine paratuberculosis as related to other clinically assessable host responses to infection. Other research interests have included mortality of long-distance racing sled dogs, causes of canine tongue disease, and description of new syndromes of domestic animals recognized through a university diagnostic service. She has a special interest in post-graduate veterinary pathology training programs.

---

---

**Dr Kumudika de Silva**  
Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

**Qualifications:**

1992 BAppSc (Hons)  
2000 PhD

**Career History:**

1993 University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka  
2000 Loyola University Medical Centre, Chicago  
2002 - present The University of Sydney



**Research Interests:**

Kumi completed a Bachelor of Applied Science degree (Hons. Class I) at the University of Canberra, where she studied the oxidation of low density lipoproteins for her Honours project. She then worked for two years as a lecturer in Biochemistry at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka.

Kumi returned to Australia to undertake doctoral studies at the John Curtin School of Medical Research, Australian National University, Canberra. During her PhD she studied the adhesion and migration of subsets of human mononuclear cells in response to native and minimally oxidised forms of low density lipoprotein. After completing her PhD, Kumi worked as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Burns and Shock Trauma Institute, Loyola University Medical Center, Chicago, USA. Here she studied the effects of prostaglandin E<sub>2</sub> on IL-6 receptor expression and signal transduction pathways. Kumi was also involved in studies investigating the response of bone marrow stem cells to injury in a murine model.

Kumi joined the Farm Animal and Veterinary Public Health Group in 2003 to study the pathogenesis of *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* infection, the cause of Johne's disease, in sheep. She is currently involved in studying the protective immune response in sheep and cattle during the early stages of Johne's disease and is interested in the lymphocyte proliferation and IL-10 responses and the interaction of the mycobacterium with monocytes. Kumi also has a long-held interest in scientific communication and is a member of the Society of Editors (NSW).

---

**Dr Navneet Dhand**

Lecturer, Veterinary Biostatistics and Epidemiology

**Qualifications**

1992 BVSc&AH  
1995 MVSc (Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology)  
2007 PhD  
2007 MACVS (Epidemiology Chapter)



**Career History**

1995 – 1999 Veterinary Officer, Punjab Government, India.  
1999 – 2004 Assistant Professor Epidemiology, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, India  
2007 – Present Lecturer, Veterinary Biostatistics and Epidemiology, The University of Sydney.

**Professional Distinctions**

2007 Chris Baldock Award, Australian College of Veterinary Scientists (Epidemiology Chapter)

**Research Interest**

Originally trained as a veterinarian, Navneet is currently Lecturer in Veterinary Biostatistics and Epidemiology and Coordinator of Veterinary Public Health Management program research projects at the University of Sydney. He has been involved in the design and conduct of epidemiological studies since 1999 and has worked in a range of research areas, particularly risk factor investigation, disease surveillance, outbreak investigations and data analysis. His PhD contributed significantly to the understanding of risk factors for ovine Johne's disease in Australian sheep flocks. Navneet was awarded the inaugural Chris Baldock Prize in 2007 for achieving the highest score in the membership examination of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists (Epidemiology Chapter). Navneet is currently the principal investigator of the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) funded research project for epidemiological investigations into the 2007 equine influenza outbreak in Australia. He is also researching public and pig producers' perceptions of the 2009 pandemic influenza A/H1N1. Navneet helps Government, industry and public health agencies understand complex issues when serious biosecurity incursions occur when the threat to the public and industry can be severe. In addition, Navneet provides epidemiological and statistical support to many other projects at the faculty such as control of nodaviral disease in tropical marine finfish hatcheries and Australian National Surveillance System for Animal Health. Navneet has developed many statistical tools for researchers. He has published a book, more than 40- peer-reviewed research articles, about 80 extension education articles and presented at numerous scientific conference, seminars and workshops.

---

---

**Dr Om Dhungyel**

Lecturer, Ruminant Health &amp; Production

**Qualifications:**

1984 BVSc&amp;AH

1992 MSc

2001 PhD

**Career History:**

1984 – 1989 Veterinary Officer, Bhutan

1992 – present The University of Sydney

**Professional Distinctions:**

1990 FAO Scholarship

**Research interests:**

After completion of an undergraduate degree in Veterinary Science from the Kerala Agricultural University, India in 1984, Om worked as a Regional and Zonal Veterinary Officer in his home country Bhutan for five years. In 1990 he was awarded an FAO scholarship to undertake a Masters of Science in Animal Breeding and Genetics at the University of Sydney. On completion of his MSc in 1992, Om worked on an ACIAR funded project on footrot in sheep and goats in Nepal. He successfully made a recombinant DNA footrot vaccine which was used to control and eradicate endemic footrot in that country. He has also worked on a similar project in Bhutan and other footrot projects and research collaborations in India, China and Malaysia. He has been a key member of the research team looking at molecular pathogenesis of footrot working in collaboration with Monash University and NSW Department of Primary Industries. As Research Leader of the project Om has successfully completed a five year Farm Specific Footrot vaccination project funded by Australian Wool Innovation. Om also worked on the Ovine Johne's Disease epidemiology project in 2003 and 2004. Currently Om is lecturing on sheep health to veterinary and animal veterinary bioscience students.

---

**Dr Robert Dixon (Deceased)**

Senior Lecturer in Veterinary Clinical Sciences

**Academic Qualifications:**

1973 BSc(Vet)(Hons)

1974 BVSc (Hons)

1982 PhD

**Career History:**

1974 - 1975 Australian Department of Agriculture

1975 - 1977 The University of Sydney

1978 - 1982 Massey University New Zealand

1982 - 1983 Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, New Zealand

1983 - 2011 The University of Sydney

**Research interests:**

Robert graduated with a BSc(Vet) degree in 1973 in which he studied the emerging field of retroviruses, before completing his BVSc degree in 1974. He worked in the Australian Department of Agriculture in the current equivalent of the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service. He then took a clinical appointment back at the University of Sydney Rural Veterinary Centre at Camden as a Clinical Pathologist. In 1977, he was appointed Cancer Research Fellow at the Faculty of Veterinary Science, Massey University, New Zealand, to further pursue his research love of retroviruses. In 1980 he was appointed Junior Lecturer in Clinical Microbiology before he received his PhD in 1982 for examining ovine lymphoma for retroviruses. He then moved to the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Laboratory Service as Veterinary Investigation Officer before taking up an academic appointment at the University of Sydney in 1983.

Robert has had extensive teaching experience with interests in animal virology, immunology and toxicology and animal welfare. His research career has involved a range of viruses of animal and human health importance. These include animal retroviruses, human and animal hepadnaviruses, human and animal pestiviruses, orbiviruses, circoviruses and picornaviruses. Robert has researched the application of novel genetically engineered vaccines. He has also worked on production animal toxicology research programs. As Subdean for Animal Welfare in the Faculty, Robert is developing new research projects in animal welfare, a key issue for the future of production animals. He is project leader of an ARC funded study into the health and welfare of dogs in remote Indigenous communities. This program also involves a novel education program. The transmission of diseases from dogs to humans is a significant component of the health burden that Aboriginal people bear. An adjunct program is examining the impact of education on dogs on human (public) health. Finally, animal welfare extension into China is being developed through seminars and research, with the ultimate aim of establishing an animal welfare curriculum to undergraduate students at Shanxi Agricultural University.

---

---

## Professor David Emery

Associate Professor in Veterinary Parasitology

### Academic Qualifications

1973	BSc(Vet) (Hons)
1974	BVSc (Hons 1)
1978	PhD
2010	DVSc

### Career History

1978 – 1981	ILRAD, Kenya
1981 – 1984	CSIRO Animal Health
1985 – 1986	ILRAD, Kenya
1984 – 2001	CSIRO Animal Health and Production
2001 – 2002	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Animal Biosecurity
2002 – present	The University of Sydney



### Research Interests:

David graduated from The University of Sydney and has devoted 25 years to ruminant mucosal immunity, disease pathogenesis and vaccination for exotic and endemic infectious diseases and gastrointestinal nematodes, with several periods in Africa. He defined cell-mediated cytotoxicity for protective immunity against *Theileria parva* (East Coast fever), determined protective epitopes on *Dichelobacter nodosus* pili (ovine footrot) and characterised leucocidins of *Fusobacterium necrophorum* (foot abscess). He led the first project team developing recombinant vaccines for worm parasites of sheep, produced and trialled several protective antigens and identified allergic (Th2) responses as the protective mechanism in natural infections. David also has experience with biosecurity, import/export quarantine, animal health policy formulation, negotiation and operations. At Biosecurity Australia, David developed import risk analyses for importation of wool and fibres as well as zoo *Bovidae* and was responsible for trade negotiations for market access of live ruminants exported from Australia to northern Asia.

David's current research interests are mucosal immunobiology of infectious and parasitic disease. He was appointed in 2004 to lead the "Host Resistance to Internal Parasites" subprogram in the Sheep Genomics Program, funded by Meat and Livestock Australia and Australian Wool Innovation. In this consultancy role, he coordinates research projects involving discovery and characterisation of genes responsible for worm resistance in sheep, develops research initiatives, reports and interfaces directly with senior staff in rural industry research and producer bodies.

---

## Dr Jeff Eppleston

Honorary Associate

### Qualifications:

1974	BScAgr (Hons) University of Sydney
1978	MSAgr University of Sydney
1993	PhD University of New South Wales

### Career History:

1978 – 1990	Officer in charge, Riversdale AB Centre.
1990 – 1997	Project Scientist, Dept Animal Sciences, UNSW
1997 – present	Project Officer, Central Tablelands RLPB



### Research Interests:

After completing his Masters degree on artificial breeding in sheep and goats, Jeff worked as officer-in-charge for a commercial artificial breeding company in southern Queensland performing artificial insemination and embryo transfer in sheep and goats. He then moved to the Department of Animal science at the University of NSW where he was involved in several applied sheep breeding projects. These included the development of the White Suffolk breed of terminal sire and the establishment of Merino genetic evaluation schemes. Jeff completed his PhD at the University of NSW in 1993 with a project on the fertility of frozen-thawed and chilled ram semen.

Since taking up his current position as Project Officer with the Central Tablelands RLPB, Jeff has been involved in applied field research into controlling ovine paratuberculosis and footrot. These projects have been in close collaboration with Professor Richard Whittington and Associate Professor Peter Windsor at the University of Sydney's Farm Animal Health Unit.

---

---

**Dr Priti Goswami**

Postdoctoral Associate

**Qualifications:**

1993 BVSc, Punjab Agricultural University, India  
1996 M.V.Sc Indian Veterinary Research Institute, India  
2008 PhD (Molecular Epidemiology)  
University of Guelph, Canada

**Research Interests:**

Priti completed her PhD in Department of Pathobiology, Ontario Veterinary College, Canada, where she undertook studies on virulence of a newly emerged tetracycline resistant enterotoxigenic *E. coli* O149 in experimental infections and developed molecular tools for field studies on its distribution in Ontario farms. Her PhD specialisation is in molecular epidemiology and antibiotic resistance. Priti also worked as an Agricultural Research Scientist, Indian Council of Agricultural Research where her interests were mainly focused on field based research to provide cost effective health solutions to the goat farmers. Her current research interests include zoonotic pathogens, public health, food safety and antibiotic resistance.

Priti joined the Farm Animal and Veterinary Public Health group in 2009 and is currently working on 'Diversity in Australian Strains of Virulent *Rhodococcus equi*'. She is also part of a team investigating the newly emerged 'Equine Amnionitis and Foetal Loss and Mare Reproductive Loss Syndrome'. Priti is also involved in teaching laboratory techniques to the undergraduate students.

---

**Dr Peter Groves**

Senior Lecturer in Poultry Health

**Qualifications:**

1977 BVSc (Hons)  
1991 MACVSc (Epidemiology)  
2000 PhD

**Career History:**

1977 – 1979 Veterinary practice (small animals, horses)  
1980 – 1981 Pfizer Agricare  
1981 – 1985 Elanco Products Company  
1985 – 1987 Ingham's Enterprises  
1987 – 2003 Baiada Poultry Pty Ltd  
2003 – present Zootechny Pty Ltd

**Professional Distinctions:**

President Australian Veterinary Poultry Association 1994; president-elect 2005.  
Director, Board Member and member of the Research and Development Committee of the Australian Poultry CRC (2003 - present)

**Research Interests:**

After graduation from the University of Sydney Peter worked in small animal and equine veterinary practice before joining Pfizer Agricare as a Veterinary Research Officer. Peter continued to work in the commercial environment with poultry research, veterinary and technical services managerial roles with Elanco Products, Ingham's Enterprises and Baiada Poultry. Currently Peter is Director of Zootechny Pty Ltd and consultant in poultry health. Peter completed his PhD at the University of Sydney in 2000 with a project on the epidemiology of the broiler ascites syndrome.

Peter's research interests include epidemiological approaches to poultry disease management, with particular interests in broiler ascites syndrome, coccidiosis, Marek's disease and Salmonella. Peter is currently part of a Poultry CRC research team studying Marek's Disease in broilers. This project has led to a better understanding of MD virus epidemiology and has introduced a real time PCR test to detect MDV in poultry dust. Peter is currently pursuing studies on the effects of an inactivated trivalent salmonella vaccine in broiler breeders aimed at decreasing the overall prevalence of Salmonella on poultry meat.

---

---

**Dr Alison Gunn**

Lecturer, Ruminant Health

**Qualifications**

1988 BVSc  
1996 MACVSc (Dairy Cattle Medicine)  
1998 MVS

**Career History**

1988 – 1994 General Practice  
1994 – 1997 University of Melbourne  
1998 – 2002 General practice and veterinary consultancy  
2006 - present University of Sydney

**Professional Distinctions**

2002 President Australian Cattle Veterinarians  
2003 Aust College of Veterinary Scientists/Aust Cattle Veterinarians “Bovine Practitioner of the Year”  
2006 Australian Veterinary Association Meritorious Service Award  
2006 Awarded a Belle Bruce Reid Medal for Outstanding Women Veterinary Science Graduates

**Research Interests**

Alison graduated from the University of Bristol in 1988 and after starting her career in mixed practice soon developed an interest in cattle. She came out to Australia in 1990 for a working holiday and has not worked in the UK since. In 1994 she was appointed the University of Melbourne dairy cattle tutor at Maffra, Victoria and completed her MVS in 1997. Alison has worked in practice in every state of Australia and has a wide range of experience in the many aspects of Australian dairy and beef production systems. She has developed many on-farm herd health and disease control programs. After completing her MVS she continued to carry out practice based research and extension into bovine infectious diseases, with a specific emphasis on epidemiology and disease control. Alison joined the University of Sydney in 2006 as a lecturer in ruminant health. She has a diverse range of research interests including prevention and treatment of calf scours, epidemiology of bovine abortion, prevention and control of pink eye, epidemiology and management of mastitis and the aetiology of bovine infertility.

---

**Dr Marta Hernandez-Jover**

ABCRC Epidemiology Research Fellow

**Qualifications**

2000 BVSc  
2002 MSc  
2006 PhD

**Career History**

2000 – 2005 Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain)  
2005 – 2006 Rumitag S.L  
2006 – present University of Sydney

**Research Interests**

Dr Marta Hernández-Jover is an Epidemiology Research Fellow at The University of Sydney working in the areas of epidemiology, public health and risk analysis.

After completing a veterinary degree, Marta commenced her PhD studies at the University Autònoma of Barcelona, Spain. She worked on a research project focused on livestock traceability, funded by the European Community. Her PhD focused on swine traceability using conventional and electronic identification systems. Animal traceability is a critical component of biosecurity and disease control. Marta undertook research at the University of Wisconsin before moving to Australia in 2005 and working as a research manager for a company specialising in electronic identification of livestock.

In September 2006, Marta joined the Farm Animal and Veterinary Public Health group at The University of Sydney as a postdoctoral researcher, working on an Australian Biosecurity Cooperative Research Centre project on traceability, biosecurity and disease surveillance among small-holding pig producers. In October 2007, Marta was appointed to her current position as an Epidemiology Research Fellow at The University of Sydney. Some of her current research projects are focused on assessing the biosecurity risks posed by pig and poultry small landholders, and the potential risks of introduction and spread of West Nile virus in Australia. She has recently been involved with a review of the National Arbovirus Monitoring Program. Marta teaches biosecurity and pig health to veterinary and animal veterinary bioscience undergraduate students.

---

---

## Associate Professor John House

Associate Professor in Bovine Health and Production

### Qualifications:

1984 BSc  
1986 BVMS (Hons)  
1994 Dip ACVIM  
1997 PhD

### Career History:

1987 - 1989 Veterinary practice  
1989 - 2002 University of California, Davis  
2002 – present University of Sydney

### Professional Distinctions:

1994 Ray Bankowski Memorial Scholarship, graduate research award  
1995 Jastro Shields Research Scholarship



### Research Interests:

John completed his BVSc degree at Murdoch University, Western Australia in 1986 and after two years in private practice relocated to the University of California, Davis, where he held positions of Resident, Large Animal Medicine, Lecturer and finally, Clinical Associate Professor. He was appointed as Associate Professor in Bovine Health and Production at the University of Sydney in 2002.

John's research efforts have focused on disease control and enhancing farm productivity through the conduct of epidemiological studies and the development of diagnostic tests and vaccines. Much of this work has been directed at prevention of salmonellosis in intensive ruminant production systems. Current projects include the evaluation of DNA adenine methylase attenuated salmonella vaccines in cattle, a national survey of bovine pink eye in Australia looking at the types and virulence attributes of isolates from around the country, epidemiological studies of environmental mastitis pathogens on NSW dairy farms, and a study evaluating different approaches to assisted reproduction in dairy cattle.

---

## Associate Professor John Humphrey

Senior Research Fellow

### Qualifications:

1969 BVSc  
1974 MSc  
1983 PhD  
1998 MACVSc

### Career History:

1970-1973 Veterinary practice  
1973-1974 James Cook University  
1974-1979 Papua New Guinea Agriculture  
1980-1982 University of Guelph  
1983-1989 Victoria Agriculture  
1989-1992 CSIRO  
1993-1995 Private consultant  
1995-1996 CSIRO  
1996-1999 Victoria Agriculture,  
1999-2003 Northern Territory Primary Industry and Fisheries,  
2003-2004 Cytopath P/L, United Kingdom  
2005-2009 Northern Territory Primary Industry and Fisheries,  
2009-present The University of Sydney



### Professional Distinctions:

Charles Lewis Davis Foundation Scholarship for Veterinary Pathology, American Society for Veterinary Pathology 1981  
Specialist in Fish Medicine, Victoria, 1990

### Research Interests:

John graduated BVSc from the University of Melbourne. After several years in private practice, he chose to pursue a career in veterinary pathology. Following a MSc degree in the Department of Tropical Veterinary Science, James Cook University, he worked as the senior veterinary pathologist in the National Veterinary Laboratory, Papua New Guinea. He subsequently undertook his Doctor of Philosophy in the Department of Pathology, University of Guelph, Canada, where he continued to expand his interest in diagnostic histopathology. On returning to Australia, he joined the Regional Veterinary Laboratory, Benalla as a veterinary pathologist. Here he developed an interest in pathology of aquatic animals that led to his appointment as Head of the Australian Fish Health Reference Laboratory. With the move of this laboratory to the CSIRO Australian Animal Health Laboratory at Geelong, Victoria, John expanded his diagnostic and research interests into diseases exotic to Australian fish. As private consultant, he was commissioned to undertake a number of major projects including a review of Australian quarantine of aquatic animals. In 1996, John was appointment head of veterinary investigations for Agriculture Victoria. In 1999, he accepted a position as Manager, Aquatic Animal Health at the Berrimah Veterinary Laboratories, Darwin, Northern Territory, where he remained for some 10 years apart from 12 months work in diagnostic cytology and histopathology in the United Kingdom. John is the author or co-author of over 50 publications encompassing a range of research interests in terrestrial, avian and aquatic animal species.

---

---

**Dr Karren Plain**

Research Fellow

**Qualifications:**

1991            BSc  
2006            PhD

**Career History:**

1992-2007      University of NSW  
2007-present   University of Sydney

**Research Interests:**

Karren joined the Farm Animal and Veterinary Public Health group as a Research Fellow in 2007. Her work involves the analysis of differential gene expression in the host/pathogen interaction in Johne's disease, identification of genetic resistance traits and development of techniques for early diagnosis of infection.

Interests include understanding how the immune response is controlled in chronic infectious diseases. Without control, an immune response that is meant to protect may damage the normal tissues in the body. These principles have been applied to the study of Johne's disease in sheep and cattle, a chronic disease where the infectious organism attempts to evade immune attack. One form of evasion may be by harnessing of immune regulatory mechanisms that have evolved to protect the host.

---

**Dr Auriol Purdie**

Research Fellow

**Qualifications**

1999            BSc (Hons. Molecular Genetics)  
2000            MSc (Immunology of Infectious Disease)  
2004            PhD (Medicine & Therapeutics)

**Career History**

2004 - 2008    The Roslin Institute, Edinburgh, UK  
2009 - present   University of Sydney

**Research Interests**

Auriol holds a Bachelor of Science in Molecular Genetics from Kings College, London (UK), a Masters degree in the Immunology of Infectious Disease from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (UK) and a Doctorate of Philosophy looking at the immunomodulatory effects of the antibiotics Ciprofloxacin and Moxifloxacin on healthy humans. The PhD was granted from the University of Aberdeen (UK). Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Sydney, Auriol completed two Post Doctoral Fellowships at The Roslin Institute (Edinburgh, UK). The first looked at the pathogenesis of bovine spongiform encephalopathy in bovine and murine models and the second Fellowship studied the potential to utilise gene transduction to obtain proteins of medical interest from a chicken model. Auriol's research interest pertains to the pathogenesis of disease in host organisms with particular reference to the immune response and she is working within the Johne's research team.

---

---

**Luzia Rast**

Project &amp; Research Officer

**Qualifications:**

1989 BVSc University of Zürich, Switzerland  
1990 BVSc Overseas degree recognition exams for Australia  
2004 MVPHMgt  
2002 Australian College of Veterinary Science Membership  
in Epidemiology

**Career History:**

1990 – 1997 Associate in private mixed practices  
1997 – 2005 District Veterinarian Gundagai Rural Lands Protection Board, NSW  
2006 – 2008 Senior Regional Animal Health Manager, NSW DPI, Wagga  
2008 – Present Research & Project Officer, PhD student, The University of Sydney

**Professional interests:**

Luzia graduated with a BVSc from the University of Zürich in Switzerland in 1989 and afterwards emigrated to Australia, starting a career in private mixed practice after passing necessary exams to have her overseas' degree recognised in Australia. She became interested in livestock herd health and productivity and national and international health issues of livestock while working as an associate in mixed practice, especially being involved in the cattle tuberculosis eradication program while working in northern Australia. This interest expanded during future employment as a district veterinarian with the NSW Rural Lands Protection Board system (now Livestock Health and Pest Authority) and then as senior regional animal health manager with the NSW Department of Primary Industries to include public health, epidemiology, design and implementation of disease control programs from farm through to national level.

Luzia joined the Farm Animal & Veterinary Public Health group in April 2008 to coordinate two research projects funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) in Lao and Cambodia for improving productivity and profitability of large ruminants kept by smallholder farmers. She also commenced a PhD in February 2009 associated with the project in Lao and will research gastrointestinal parasitise of economic importance in cattle and buffalo in northern Lao.

---

**Dr Michael Rimmer**

Senior Research Fellow

**Qualifications:**

1978 BSc University of Sydney  
1984 MSc Macquarie University  
1996 PhD

**Career History:**

1979–1983 Macquarie University  
1984–1987 NSW Department of Agriculture  
1987–2006 QLD Department of Primary Industries  
2006–2010 James Cook University  
2010–present University of Sydney

**Research Interests:**

Mike has been involved in the development of aquaculture and stock enhancement techniques for Australian native marine and freshwater fishes for over 25 years. From 1987 to 2006 he worked for the Queensland Department of Primary Industries, based at Northern Fisheries Centre in Cairns. In this position he was instrumental in the development of practical aquaculture technology for barramundi (*Lates calcarifer*), which is now the principal aquacultured finfish in northern Australia. More recently, he has been involved in developing aquaculture technology for high-value marine finfish such as snappers (Lutjanidae) and groupers (Serranidae). Although Mike has broad interests in aquaculture, his research has largely been focussed on larval rearing of tropical marine finfish, including aspects of larval nutrition and the development of low-cost seedstock production technologies.

Mike has undertaken numerous collaborative studies with laboratories in the US, Taiwan, Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, India, and several Pacific Island countries. He has been project leader / manager for five ACIAR projects, including two projects to improve hatchery and grow-out technology for high-value marine finfish aquaculture in the Asia-Pacific region. From 2006 to 2010 he was based in Aceh, Indonesia, managing an ACIAR-funded project supporting rehabilitation of coastal aquaculture in the aftermath of the 2004 tsunami. Since 2010 he has been based in Makassar, Indonesia, managing a University of Sydney project funded by ACIAR to improve the productivity of coastal aquaculture ponds in South Sulawesi and Aceh provinces.

---

---

**Dr Jan Šlapeta**

Lecturer in Veterinary Parasitology

**Qualification:**

1999 MVDr  
2002 PhD  
2008 GradCertED (HigherEd)

**Career History**

1993 - 2001 University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno, Czech Republic  
2001 - 2003 Wadsworth Center, National Institute of Health & NY State Department of Health, Albany, NY, USA  
2003 - 2005 Université Paris-Sud, Orsay, France  
2005 - 2007 Institute for Biotechnology of Infectious Diseases (IBID), University of Technology, Sydney  
2007 - present Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Sydney

Jan specialises in the molecular identification and the evolution of protozoan parasites, particularly apicomplexan parasites (*Cryptosporidium*, *Neospora*). Jan's research program embraces experimental biology of protozoa with emphasis on the identification of the intimate relationship between the parasite and its host. His leadership is recognised by national (University of Sydney, University of Technology Sydney, Charles Sturt University, Murdoch and Adelaide University) and international collaborations in France, Italy, Spain, the Czech Republic and the UK. His diagnostic techniques and biodiversity studies have received worldwide acceptance. Jan's research is funded by Australian Research Council and Australian Academy of Sciences. He has published over 50 peer-review articles. Jan has a broad understanding of the biology of parasites of both medical and veterinary importance, as well as the diseases caused by them. He has a strong research profile in parasitology, gained from his experience in several research laboratories. He was awarded a Fogarty International Fellowship to pursue his career at the NIH in the USA. Following his time in the USA, he accepted a postdoctoral research fellowship at the CNRS in France before taking up a research fellowship at the University of Technology in Sydney. He joined the Faculty in 2007.

---

**Dr Jenny-Ann Toribio**

Senior Lecturer in Epidemiology

Academic Supervisor - Veterinary Public Health / Veterinary Public Health Management Program

**Qualifications**

1989 BVSc (Hons 1)  
2000 PhD  
2003 Graduate Certificate in Higher Education  
2009 MACVSc (Epidemiology)

**Research Interests:**

Jenny-Ann completed a BVSc at the University of Queensland in 1989 and worked predominately in companion animal practice including 2 years with the RSPCA in New South Wales. In 1994 she commenced a PhD at the University of Queensland on smallholder pig systems in the Philippines – a project funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). On completion she provided input as a consultant to two ACIAR projects in the Philippines prior to commencing her appointment at the University of Sydney.

Jenny-Ann's research interests are varied and currently include the epidemiology of acorn calf disease, the disease risk posed by wildlife and small-scale producers to the commercial pig industry, the improvement of smallholder shrimp systems in Indonesia, and evaluation of avian influenza and classical swine fever disease risk posed by animal movements in Indonesia. Jenny-Ann has considerable experience working in south-east Asia and contributes to ACIAR-funded projects related to smallholder poultry, pig and shrimp systems in Indonesia.

Jenny-Ann had a key role in the establishment of postgraduate coursework offerings in Veterinary Public Health Management and Veterinary Public Health in this faculty and is the Academic Supervisor for the VPH/VPHMgt program. This program offers technical and managerial units that are delivered via an online classroom and some short residentials. Her research interests now extend to innovative approaches to training in veterinary epidemiology at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

---

---

**Ms Meg Vost**

Postgraduate Teaching Coordinator  
Postgraduate Coursework Programs

**Qualifications:**

1997 BA  
2004 MPH

**Career History:**

1998 Tony Stone Images, London  
1998 – 1999 Faculty of Medicine, University of London  
1999 Refugee Legal Centre, London  
2000 – present University of Sydney  
2005 Part-time Volunteer, AUSTCARE

**Description:**

After graduating with a BA in human geography from the University of Wollongong, Meg travelled to London, where she worked at the University of London and for the Refugee Legal Centre. She started working at the University of Sydney in 2000 and moved to the Faculty of Veterinary Science in 2001. Meg is passionate about social and public health issues and undertook a Master of International Public Health in 2002. After graduation, Meg commenced in a volunteer position at AUSTCARE (Australians Caring for Refugees) and in 2005 began to work for the Veterinary Public Health Management program as Learner Support and Research Coordinator. Meg has assumed the role of coordinator of teaching for Postgraduate Coursework, including the Veterinary Public Health Management program. She acts as primary contact for facilitators, reviews units to ensure they are of the quality required, monitors online classrooms and is involved in assessment. Meg is progressively moving into new areas as she learns more about the program.

---

**Professor Michael Ward**

Chair Veterinary Public Health & Food Safety

**Qualifications:**

1986 BVSc (Hons)  
1992 MSc & MPVM  
1995 PhD

**Career History:**

1987 - 2000 Queensland Department of Primary Industries  
2000 - 2004 Veterinary Pathobiology, Purdue University  
2004 - 2007 Veterinary Integrative Biosciences, Texas A&M University  
2008 – present Sydney University

**Professional Distinctions:**

1997 Ian Clunies Ross Award, Australian College of Veterinary Scientists  
Fellow, Epidemiology, Australian College of Veterinary Scientists

Following graduation from the University of Queensland's School of Veterinary Science, Michael worked for the Queensland Department of Primary Industries as a Veterinary Officer in the department's Veterinary Service Branch. Several years later Michael seized the opportunity to study epidemiology at the University of California, Davis. He returned to the QDPI following master's and PhD training, but soon left Australia again to take up a position at the Purdue University Veterinary School and settled in West Lafayette, Indiana. In 2004, he moved to the Texas A&M University Veterinary School. This is a large University that is also well known for engineering and agriculture in the "heart of Texas". When a position became available at the University of Sydney in 2007, the decision to return to Australia was not difficult.

Michael's real passion is in epidemiological analytical methods and veterinary public health and applying new and interesting statistics and modelling methods. However, veterinary public health strikes a deeper chord in him as it involves using a range of techniques (often not very sophisticated) that can best help our society by reducing the impact of disease on both animal and human populations. As veterinary public health (which is based on disciplines such as epidemiology, biostatistics and pathobiology) become more sophisticated, taking the methods available and applying them appropriately and with effect is a big challenge. The field is so enormous in its breadth, ranging from economics and risk assessment to modelling and spatial methods, that it's virtually impossible to be an expert in all of these emerging sub-disciplines. He feels that veterinary public health students not only need to take advantage of the opportunity to learn as many of the different tools that are available as possible, but to read and think about their chosen discipline: improving human health by improving animal health, whilst ensuring sustainability with high welfare standards in a cost-effective way.

---

---

**Professor Richard Whittington**

Chair Farm Animal Health

**Qualifications:**

1980	BVSc (Hons 1, University Medal)
1987	MACVSc
1994	PhD
2008	GAICD
2010	FASM

**Career History:**

1980 - 1983	Veterinary practice
1984 - 2002	NSW Agriculture
2002 - present	The University of Sydney

**Professional Distinctions:**

2002 Ian Clunies Ross Award, Australian College of Veterinary Scientists for contributions to veterinary research  
Specialist registration in Veterinary Pathobiology  
Fellow of the Australian Society for Microbiology

**Research Interests:**

Richard graduated with a BVSc from The University of Sydney and spent several years in small and mixed animal practice on the NSW south coast and in the United Kingdom before undergoing training with NSW Agriculture in Veterinary Pathology. Following five years as a diagnostic pathologist Richard commenced full time research at the Veterinary Research Station, Glenfield and Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute, working mainly in microbiology, virology and immunology of economically significant diseases of sheep and fish, and completed a PhD on the immunology of *Dichelobacter nodosus* infection in sheep at the University of Sydney.

Richard currently leads research on the pathobiology of *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis*, the cause of Johne's disease in ruminants, and infectious diseases of finfish and wildlife including the platypus. His research activity encompasses epidemiology, diagnostic test development and validation, biosecurity, import risk analysis for aquatic animal health, and the impact of viral infections on conservation of threatened aquatic finfish species. Major studies involve vaccine development for *D.nodosus* infection in sheep, molecular studies of viruses and bacteria, immune responses and pathology in individual animals and animal populations. This aims to improve understanding of host-pathogen interactions and will lead to development of improved diagnostic tests, vaccines and other disease control strategies. This research is conducted at Camden in specialist infectious diseases laboratories and involves a large and dynamic group of young scientists, post graduate students and support staff. Richard also leads several international projects in Indonesia. He teaches in veterinary public health, microbiology, pathology and ruminant and aquatic animal health.

Richard is a member of national and international scientific committees, a board member of the International Association for Paratuberculosis and an OIE-nominated technical expert on EHN virus and ranavirus.

---

---

**Professor Peter Windsor**  
Chair Livestock Health & Production

**Qualifications:**

1977 BVSc(Hons)  
1988 PhD  
2005 Grad Cert Higher Ed  
2007 DVSc

**Career History:**

1977 – 1980 NSW Department of Agriculture,  
Regional Veterinary Laboratory, Wollongbar  
1980 – 1981 Cornell University  
1981 – 1982 San Diego Zoo  
1983 – 1990 NSW Department of Agriculture, Veterinary Research Station, Glenfield  
1990 – 1998 NSW Department of Agriculture, Grafton Agricultural Research Station  
1998 – 1999 FAO, Philippines  
1999 – 2000 NSW Department of Primary Industries, Goulburn  
1999 – 2002 NSW Department of Primary Industries, EMAI  
2002 – present The University of Sydney



**Professional Distinctions:**

1980 - Australian-American Educational Foundation Fulbright Overseas Study Award  
1988 - Registered Specialist Veterinary Surgeon, Pathobiology  
2009 – Diplome European College of Small Ruminant Health Management

**Research interests:**

Raised in Wagga, Peter commenced his career as a trainee with NSW Agriculture at Wollongbar near Lismore where he developed his interest in diagnostic pathology that led to a Fulbright Award to undertake pathology residency training in the USA. On his return to Glenfield, NSW in 1983 he completed his PhD on ruminant neuropathology in 1987, identifying many new inherited disorders in livestock including citrullinaemia of Holstein-Friesians and maple syrup urine disease and myoclonus of Herefords. He was OIC of the RVL at Glenfield when it was moved to the Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute in 1990. He then transferred to the Grafton Agricultural Research Station to manage animal health surveillance, regulatory and extension programs for the NSW north-coast region, including Norfolk Island. His interest in international work progressed with several short term consultancies to train Indonesian veterinarians in disease investigation. In Grafton he commenced research on bovine abortion, resulting in isolation of *Neospora caninum* and development of an Australian serological test. In 1998, he undertook a 19-month appointment with FAO on the successful FMD eradication program in the Philippines. He returned to NSW Agriculture at Goulburn in 2000 to manage OJD then transferred to EMAI in 2001 to manage OJD vaccination research that led to registration of Gudair® vaccine. He rejoined the Faculty on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2002

Peter's diverse research interests include applied field-based projects on ruminant health and production problems, including neurological and genetic diseases, paratuberculosis, neosporosis and improving animal welfare during routine husbandry procedures. He has published over 110 papers in refereed journals and supervised 13 PhD's. He is particularly interested in international development and manages several projects on improving cattle health and husbandry in Cambodia and Laos for smallholder poverty alleviation and promotion of village level biosecurity to assist FMD control.

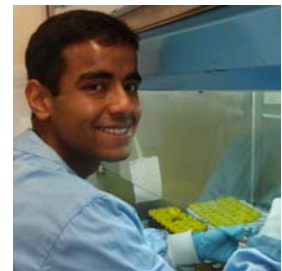
---



Adelyn Bolithon

Ann-Michele Whittington

Alison Tweedie



Anna Waldron

Rebecca Maurer

Nicole Carter

Ankit Srivastava



Pabitra Dhungyel

Greg MacNamara

Natalie Schiller



Nobel Toribio

Karen Williams

Denise McDonnell