

THE ROYAL (DICK) SCHOOL OF VETERINARY STUDIES



THE JEANNE MARCHIG INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR ANIMAL WELFARE EDUCATION

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ANIMAL WELFARE NEWS

THE SAD LOSS OF MADAME JEANNE MARCHIG

We were extremely sad to have to announce that our generous sponsor, Jeanne Marchig, passed away on the 2 May 2013. She will be remembered for her unwavering passion for positively changing the lives of so many animals through her work, her advocacy and her funded projects. Professor Nat Waran, Director of the JMICAWE said ' We are proud to have been trusted to continue her work through the Jeanne Marchig International animal welfare centre, inspired by Jeanne's vision to improve the quality of life for all animals through education, training and by influencing policy at the highest level'.



Jeanne receiving her Honorary degree from The University of Edinburgh in recognition of her services to animal welfare.

R(D)SVS STUDENTS WIN ANIMAL WELFARE AWARDS AND GRANTS

We are very proud of all of our animal welfare students, but especially pleased that some of our students from the Masters in Applied Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare programme (MSc AABAW) and Masters in International Animal Welfare, Ethics & Law (MSc IAWEL) have been selected to receive either an award or grant due to the high calibre of their work.

Congratulations to Anna Brown and Mallary Paoli who received UFAW scholarships. Also to Mary Baxter who received a WPSA scholarship and Amber Barnes who received a grant from the Animal Welfare Trust – well done!

LIFE AS AN ONLINE STUDENT STUDYING ANIMAL WELFARE HERE AT THE R(D)SVS



The inaugural year for the new MSc International Animal Welfare, Ethics and Law (MSc IAWEL) is nearly complete, and it has been a real pleasure getting to know our first 35 pioneer students. We have been delighted with the great constructive feedback we have received. Amber Barnes is one of our pioneers, here she tells us what it's like to study online with the MSc IAWEL program –



I had been searching for a graduate program for some time when I came across the International Animal Welfare, Ethics and Law program (MSc IAWEL) at the University of Edinburgh. I was specifically looking for comprehensive courses in animal welfare, geographical flexibility and rigorous standards that would challenge me and prepare me for a career in animal welfare. I have found all this and more in the IAWEL program. Any concerns I may have had about online study were quickly relieved as I have found it most engaging and inclusive. Of course, managing time zones and personal commitments, such as work and family, has been difficult at times, but it has certainly been worth it.

JMICAWE SIGN AGREEMENT WITH THE KERALA VETERINARY & ANIMAL SCIENCES UNIVERSITY IN INDIA

Following three extremely successful British Council sponsored animal welfare education and problem based learning workshops facilitated by animal health and welfare lecturers from the RDSVS and hosted by the Kerala Veterinary and Animal Science University, JMICAWE's Prof Nat Waran returned to India to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the University of Edinburgh with Dr Ashok, Vice Chancellor of the KVASU and to join representatives from each of the workshops to hold a 'wrap-up' symposium. The Symposium held in Cochin at the end of April, allowed the KVASU faculty members (joined by their Deans) to showcase what they had learned and how they planned to implement the approach, to an audience of 50 academics from other Indian Veterinary schools.



The meeting ended on a high point, with a clear commitment from a number of other vet school faculty Deans to hold further workshops involving the JMICAWE in collaboration with the KVASU faculty staff, to share best practice in teaching methodologies and in the delivery of animal health and welfare knowledge and skills, to staff working within other Universities. We are now looking forward to welcoming the KVASU team to Edinburgh for a week long visit to enable them to learn more about what and how we teach and discuss areas for research collaboration in animal health, welfare and conservation medicine.

ANIMAL WELFARE ELECTIVE - a great success with final year BVM&S students

This year, the R(D)SVS offered their BVM&S students a new final year elective in Applied Animal Behaviour and Welfare.

This new elective was designed to provide advanced knowledge and understanding of domestic, laboratory & captive wild animal welfare and to provide some practical experience relating to the management of clinical animal behaviour problems in domestic and captive settings. Throughout the two week period, the students went on numerous field trips including Edinburgh Zoo, a Commercial Pig Farm Unit, the Dogs Trust Shelter and a research animal housing facility.

Feedback from the students has been very positive - one student said:



Thanks for the past 2 weeks, I really did enjoy it a lot. Everything that we did was extremely thought provoking/inspiring. I feel very honoured and fortunate to be one of the first people to have done this rotation, and certainly appreciate the effort and time that all the teachers have put into it. Thanks again and hope the students next year will enjoy it as much as we did.

SUCCESSFUL CLINICAL SKILLS TRAINING IN CHINA at the Chinese Agriculture University



During the last week of May, Hayley Walters and Heather Bacon of the JMICAWE travelled to the China Agricultural University (CAU), China's premier veterinary school, in Beijing. Invited by Dr Jin of the surgical teaching team, they trained staff and students in the use of alternatives to animals in surgical training. Dr Jin has already made excellent progress in this area – reducing the numbers of dogs and rabbits used for elective surgical training in his course from 80 to 18 each year. In addition to improved clinical training experiences in suturing, ligature-tying, anaesthesia and pain assessment, they also discussed wider applications of animal welfare and its application across the veterinary curriculum.

As the number one veterinary school in China, CAU has good training facilities. It is hoped that through partnership with JMICAWE and the R(D)SVS, excellence in teaching animal welfare and its practical applications to the clinical environment may be integrated into the curriculum.

The team had discussions on improved patient care and in-hospital management, with particular reference to nursing support (an area in which China lacks professional development) and pain recognition and analgesic management in dog and cat species within the existing Chinese regulatory frameworks. The importance of practical and clinical solutions to welfare problems and the integration of improved animal welfare through an enhanced clinical experience were also discussed and emphasised.

EUSA TEACHING AWARDS

We were delighted that our Programme Director for the MSc IAWEL, Dr Fritha Langford received the runners-up prize, for **the University of Edinburgh's EUSA Teaching with Technology Award**.

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