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## COLLEGE COUNCIL

### President

Dr David Tabrett

### Chief Examiner

A/Prof Jennifer Carter

### Honorary Secretary

Dr Wendy Goodwin

### Honorary Treasurer

Dr Carolyn Guy

### Councillors

Dr Cathy Beck

Dr Jennifer Sinclair

Dr Guy Wolfenden

### Award Committee Convenor

Dr Guy Wolfenden

### New Zealand Contact

Dr Carolyn Guy

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A/Prof Jennifer Carter

### Assistant Chief Examiner (T&C)

Dr Jana Leshinsky

### Assistant Chief Examiner (Exam)

Dr Ruth Sutcliffe

### Board of Examiner Members

Dr Linda Abraham

Dr Nick Bamford

Dr Susan Beths

Dr Claire Cannon

Dr Lydia Hambrook

Dr Yenny Indrawirawan

Dr Rachael-Kate Llewellyn

Dr Rena MacFarlane

Dr Jennifer Manyweathers

Dr Elizabeth Tee

## ANZCVS COLLEGE OFFICE STAFF

### Chief Executive Officer

Mr Stephen Alderman

### Examinations Manager

Dr Mary Anne Hiscutt

### Examinations Officer

Mrs Jenny Burnett

### Assistant Examinations Officers

Mrs Elizabeth Masu

Mrs Cassie Roqica

### Project Officer

Dr Rachel Tan

### Administration Manager

Ms Maureen Thie

### Administration Officers

Mrs Sharyn Logan

Ms Cheyenne Tuari



## COLLEGE MERCHANDISE

**Polo Shirts**     \$35.00

**Vests**             \$66.00

To place your order or for information on measurements, please contact the College Office.

Phone: +61 (07) 3423 2016

Email: [admin@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:admin@anzcvs.org.au)

Note: All prices are in AUD and include GST.  
Postage fees apply, if applicable.





## EDITOR'S NOTE

It is shaping up to be an incredible Vet Science Week 2025, with several Chapters hosting prominent keynote speakers. Keep up to date with all the goings on via the Chapter Reports, College socials and emails.

Several Chapters are offering CE webinars and journal clubs to their members - be sure to reach out to your Chapter Executives to see what your Chapter offers.

Don't forget that as a College Member, you can benefit from a **free** Microsoft 365 (A1) online license. If you want to know more, contact the College [Admin Team](#)!



## CEO REPORT

As we move through another busy year, I appreciate the dedication and commitment of our members to advancing the goals and values of the College and the field of veterinary sciences. Our College continues to thrive due to the collective efforts of veterinarians like you and other veterinarians who have demonstrated a commitment to deepening their expertise, supporting their colleagues, and contributing to the rigorous certification processes that shape our contribution to the veterinary profession.

Our community's commitment to continued education and learning is evident, with over 300 veterinarians preparing for the 2025 examination cycle across 20 Membership and 11 Fellowship subjects. Your contributions, from examination preparation to professional development events like Vet Science Week, reinforce the College's purpose and help us to continue to set high standards for the veterinary profession.

Preparing and delivering examinations are essential activities for each chapter. If you wish to participate in your chapter's examinations and contribute to the development of the veterinary profession, please contact your executive committee to express your interest.

### Signed up to Recurring Payments?



A reminder that our annual direct debit will be processed on 20 March 2025.

For more information, contact the [Admin Team](#).

In February, we held Examiner and multiple choice question (MCQ) workshops in Brisbane. Despite some unexpected challenges at the venue, the resilience and adaptability of the participants were commendable. Attendees also embraced collaborating and engaging with new and existing colleagues. The overall positive atmosphere and commitment displayed by everyone helped make the workshops productive and enjoyable, ultimately leading to their success. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all participants for their hard work, commitment and valuable contributions. We really appreciated your efforts!

Vet Science Week registrations will open in the first week of April. Once again, we have a fantastic program of scientific sessions, and our keynote speaker is the highly acclaimed Professor Sidney Dekker. Please take advantage of the early bird rates, which will be available until the beginning of May.

Looking forward, I encourage you to remain active in your chapter, attend future meetings and support each other. Your commitment to advancing veterinary science and maintaining the highest professional standards has established our College as a highly respected and reputable institution, which I am very proud to be a part of.

**Stephen Alderman**

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr David Tabrett



Well, we are in the home stretch in our College year for 2025!

In preparation for exams, final adjustments are being made through Subject Examinations Committees at both Membership and Fellowship levels. This is followed by submission to the Board of Examiners, which involves multiple layers of review concerning examination design and assessment criteria.

As Science Week approaches, Chapters are concluding their programs, securing speakers, and seeking sponsorship partners. (Keep an eye on the Vet Science Week 2025 website for details as they come to hand).

Common to these domains of our College operations is the critical role of our volunteer workforce. Perhaps you have recently engaged with your Chapter executive and put yourself forward to help; or perhaps you are an experienced examiner, now mentoring more recent examiners as they develop their skills? Perhaps you are invigorated to develop a strong Science Week program in your field of endeavour? Or perhaps you are interested in a holistic overview of the College body generally, and you play a vital role in Board of Examiners, or the College Council?

Firstly, thank you. Your contribution is recognised and valued.

So why do we volunteer?

Research from Griffith University found that a key component for the motivation across most volunteers is a strong sense of altruism. This can be described with 3 facets: helping others in need, giving back to the community, and alignment towards an organisational purpose. This sense of altruism is strong across all phases of the volunteer life cycle. A sense of satisfaction with your College work environment will vary dependent upon your role & tasks but altruism remains strong. A deeper dive into volunteer motivations highlights that nuances exist within the umbrella of altruism and satisfaction. The “reputation and good standing of the organisation”, and “the work allows use of expertise and experience” can be powerful determinants of our organisational commitment.

These perspectives are reflected in my discussions with Chapter executives and committees, as well as Board of Examiners and more.

A volunteering workforce demonstrates planned helping behaviour, and it is within the planned that we can see the structures, the organisational design (in our case, the Collage operates centrally, and with Chapters peripherally in a hub and spoke design), the processes, policies and procedures (Chapter Handbooks, Examinations Policies, Fellowship Candidate Handbooks etc.). These structures provide stability yet remain dynamic to the evolving needs of our stakeholder partnerships. It is in the nature of our systems that we rely upon the experience of past leaders to design the frameworks that guide us today.

These same structures could be seen as an obstacle to progress, to our energies to adapt and respond. But that view would ignore the experience of our learned colleagues who have gone before us to respond in their time. Rather than seeing an obstacle, I prefer to see a bedrock, a foundation for solid growth through the efforts and energy of the next generation of College leadership.

At this time, the call for volunteers to step forward into Chapter roles, to Committees, to Board of Examiners, to College Council, provide an avenue for the dynamic nature of our systems to be moulded to current feedback, while remaining true to our Purpose and Values.

The question remains: how can you build upon the past leadership and grow our College into the 21st Century?

**David Tabrett**

Merrilees, Bill, Dale Miller and Raisa Yakimova, 'Volunteer Retention Motives and Determinants across the Volunteer Lifecycle' (2020) 32(1) Journal of Nonprofit & Public Sector Marketing 25-46.

Boysen, Yvette, 'Understand the Volunteer Lifecycle' (2020) 25(1) The Volunteer Management Report 1-1.





# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

## COLLEGE COUNCIL

The College Council is the body that administers the College on behalf of the Membership. Council, as the Board of Directors of the College, manages the strategic objectives of the College and therefore significantly influences the future of the veterinary profession in Australia and New Zealand.

Your involvement is essential. Two places on Council are available for election this year, with nominations for these positions currently being called.

Dr. Cathy Beck has announced her intention to run for re-election to the Council this year. She has been a member of the Council since 2022 and is actively engaged in several subcommittees, including the Examination Evolution and Support Committee. Dr. Beck has been a strong advocate for advancing sustainable examination procedures.

Dr. Carolyn Guy has announced her intention to run for re-election to the Council this year. She has been a member of the College Council since 2022 and has held the position of Honorary Treasurer since 2023. Prior to her tenure on the Council, Dr. Guy was the Chief Examiner from 2018 to 2021.

All members should consider nominating for Council if you have an interest in the future and objectives of the College and a desire to make a significant contribution to the veterinary profession. Councillors are offered directorship training and extensive support from the College office and find the experience of serving on Council to be a most rewarding and enjoyable one. All financial Members and Fellows of the College are eligible for nomination and election for Council. [A nomination form is available here.](#)

### Why Become a College Councillor?

#### Make a Real Impact

- Influence the College's strategic direction by engaging with key decisions and governance matters.
- Actively participate in shaping the future of the College through Council meetings and key decision-making processes.

#### Professional Development

- Enhance your strategic thinking, decision-making, and advocacy skills in a high-level leadership role.
- Gain valuable experience in corporate governance and leadership, with training and support provided.

#### Champion our College Community

- Promote membership and encourage professional fellowship within the veterinary community.
- Serve as a vital link between the College and its Chapters, providing guidance, support, and leadership.
- Represent the College at events and act as an ambassador for its purpose and values.

#### Support and Recognition

- Receive full financial support for travel, accommodation, and meals when attending in-person Council meetings and the Annual General Meeting.
- Benefit from extensive assistance from dedicated College staff.
- Enjoy the personal and professional satisfaction of playing a key role in the leadership of the College.

To nominate for Council, please download and complete the online form [available here](#).

**Nominations close 1 June 2025**





# CHIEF EXAMINER'S REPORT

A/Prof Jennifer Carter



As we enter this new year, I want to thank our College office staff, Council members, Board of Examiners members, and examiners and observers for their incredible contributions to the College examinations process. We have hit the ground running in 2025 preparing for another large cohort of examinations and examining teams are busily working on their exams.

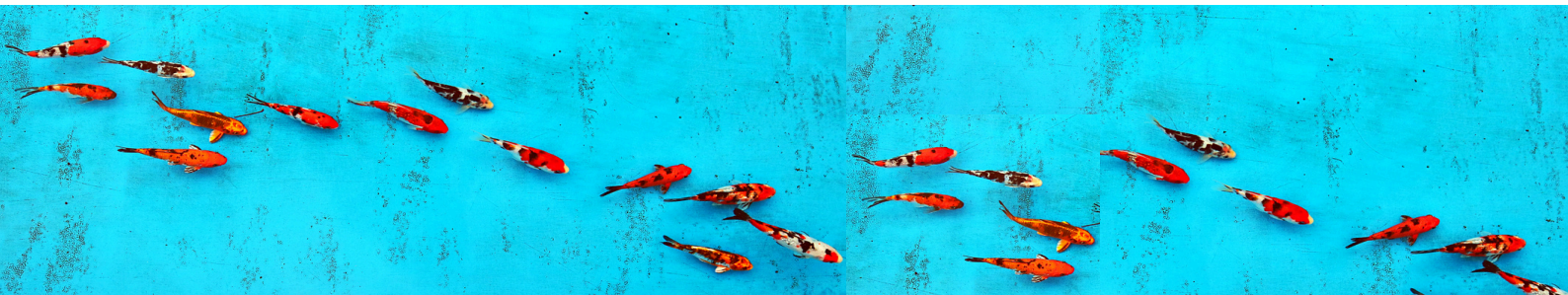
The Board of Examiners hosted the annual examiners workshop in Brisbane on 8-9 February with attendees from an excellent breadth of both Membership and Fellowship subject examining teams. The weekend consisted of some brief presentations alongside high-impact collaborative writing and revision sessions facilitated by BOE members. It was a successful weekend for all involved with some teams staying on for a while after the Sunday session ended to take advantage of the space to collaborate in person with their fellow examiners. In parallel, a small multiple choice question workshop met onsite in Brisbane, facilitated by Aaron Herndon and I, to review and revise pre-submitted multiple-choice questions across a number of different subjects. This workshop helped to continue the important College goal of developing an item bank of MCQ questions for use in written papers to improve the sustainability of the examinations processes. In addition to all the examinations business of the weekend, attendees enjoyed a joint dinner together – a lovely social experience for our College community.

I would like to personally thank all the attendees at both workshops for their diligent efforts in making the weekend a true success. I would also, of course, be remiss in not thanking the College staff and Board of Examiners members in attendance for their support and contributions.

Further to the discussion above about multiple choice questions, the BOE is starting a MCQ Working Group to continue to provide expert question review and revision tips and potentially to provide MCQ quality assurance training within group member's local networks. This would be an entirely volunteer role, and the aim is to have a team that is of suitable size that the workload is small for all involved and we anticipate the vast majority of workload to be asynchronous. While we would love to have volunteers who come to us with MCQ writing expertise, we are also happy to train volunteers and work with them to develop confidence in this space. College members who are interested may reach out to me directly for further information.

Finally, I'd like to commend all the hard work of our examining teams, and I am confident that this will be a great year! I'd also like to extend my best wishes to all of our Membership and Fellowship candidates who are hard at work preparing to sit their exams!

~ Jen





## **MANDATORY INTENTION TO SIT DATE FOR FELLOWSHIP CANDIDATES**

**The deadline to register your intention to sit  
2026 Fellowship Examinations is**

**30 JUNE 2025**

**No applications will be accepted after this date.**

Fellowship Candidates wishing to sit Fellowship examinations in 2026 should note that it is mandatory to register their intention to sit with the College office before 30 June 2025.

No applications to sit the Fellowship examinations will be accepted after this date. Candidates who register an intention to sit, but do not comply with current credential guidelines will be able to withdraw their application before 31 October 2025.

Please note that the Credentials date of 31 October remains the same, and at this time all requirements outlined in the training guidelines must be completed.



## Project Officer Report

### Dr Rachel Tan

### Vet Science Week

Save the date for VSW this year with 20 participating Chapters. Pre-conference workshops on Wednesday 23 July will include two live-dog workshops (Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation and Small Animal Ultrasound), Veterinary Behaviour, Research Skills, Small Animal Surgery and a College MCQ workshop.

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION** is set to open on 3 APRIL, so please keep an eye on the [VSW website](#) for registration information.

**MCQ Workshop - Pre-VSW 23 July 2025.** A one-day intensive MCQ Workshop will be held on the pre-conference workshop day before VSW. The Examinations team is finalising the details of the workshop and contacting members to participate in Chapter team question writing.

If you haven't already caught up, speaker proceedings for all available VSW 2024 sessions are available at: <https://anzcvs.arinex.one/pages/speaker-proceedings>. Access to the Feline Masterclass to 2024 delegates and paid access for any veterinarian or ANZCVS Members is available on the College's [learning management system](#) (LMS). Please email our [Admin Team](#) for access.

### Small Group MCQ Workshop

**8 - 9 February 2025**

Thanks to all our Members who attended the very productive MCQ Workshop at the Brisbane Airport Convention Centre. This was held concurrently with the examiners workshop and convened by Dr Jennifer Carter and Dr Aaron Herndon. The weekend was very productive with 96% of questions reviewed being approved for question banking at both Membership and Fellowship level.



Curious on current vacancies?  
Check out the ANZCVS  
[Positions Vacant page](#)  
Updated regularly!

## FUNDING FOR WILDLIFE DISEASE INVESTIGATIONS – VETERINARIANS (AUSTRALIA ONLY)

*Have you seen an unusual wildlife case that you'd like to investigate further?*



The National Significant Disease Investigation (NSDI) Program provides funding to veterinarians to investigate and report on significant disease incidents in wildlife. Funds are available for your veterinary investigation (usually \$400-\$550 but may be more for larger events) plus additional funds to cover laboratory testing.

To apply, or to discuss the type of cases that can be funded, contact Wildlife Health Australia or your State/Territory WHA Coordinator ([WHA contact list](#)).

For more information, [click here](#).




ANZCVS  
VET SCIENCE WEEK  
2025

# VET SCIENCE WEEK 2025

23 - 26 JULY 2025

GOLD COAST CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE

Vet Science Week is the premier veterinary conference in Australia and New Zealand focused on advancing practice across multidisciplinary fields of vet science. The cutting-edge scientific program showcases current trends in clinical practice, innovation and research for both specialists and veterinarians working in general practice. With networking events, a dynamic trade hall, and celebrations like the College Awards night, this is the ultimate event to learn, collaborate, and grow.

## PROGRAM COMING SOON

### Don't miss out on our Pre-Conference Workshops!

Including Canine Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation, and Ultrasound.

### CHAPTERS PARTICIPATING IN VET SCIENCE WEEK

- Animal Reproduction
- Animal Welfare
- Dermatology
- Emergency and Critical Care
- Epidemiology
- Equine
- Feline
- Medicine and Management of Laboratory Animals
- Ophthalmology
- Pathobiology
- Radiology
- Small Animal Medicine
- Surgery
- Veterinary Anaesthesia & Analgesia
- Veterinary Behaviour
- Veterinary Oncology
- Veterinary Pharmacology
- Veterinary Practice Small Animal
- Veterinary Public Health
- Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation

Head to our website to find out more: [vetscienceweek.com.au](https://vetscienceweek.com.au)



## Exam Question Writers needed!

If you are interested in writing questions for your Chapter as part of their Question Bank or would like to become involved in the next or following years examinations, please contact [Admin](#). Our team will organise access to our Online Examination Series hosted on the [College's LMS](#), which will provide information on the examination processes and question structure. The series includes live question and answer session recordings, which are structured as follows:

	Duration	Item	Presenter
Session 1	30 min	Introduction to College examination processes	Dr Lydia Hambrook
	45 min	Using Learning Outcomes to define the testing point Question construction, designing higher order questions	Dr Lydia Hambrook
Session 2	90 min	Writing effective MCQs for Higher Order Thinking: How to design better multiple-choice questions effectively and avoid common flaws	Mr Neville Chiavaroli (ACER) Dr Cathy Beck
Session 3	45 min	Modifying Marking Rubric templates to suit your subject and application	Dr Jen Carter
	30 min	Common issues and questions	Dr Lydia Hambrook

## Fellowship Review Project

The College has commenced a project examining the current structure of Fellowship Programs, including examination processes. Despite ANZCVS examination-focussed reviews having been undertaken over the last 2 decades, a holistic review of the entire Fellowship program has not. This review intends to benchmark the ANZCVS against similar professional specialisation programs and ensure the ANZCVS remains an innovator in this field while ensuring the sustainability of the volunteer workforce required for its delivery.

The review seeks to cover all aspects of Fellowship training, including entry and eligibility requirements, educational framework, learning environments, assessment approaches, feedback processes and supervisor training and support. In addition, as the Fellowship program requires volunteers at the Fellowship level for both the supervision and assessment components of the program, sustainability and burden will also be considered.

The College will be particularly seeking insights into the following questions from the review:

- How does the ANZCVS Fellowship program compare with other similar professional specialisation programs?
- What innovative changes could be made to the current structure and/or processes of the Fellowship program while maintaining or enhancing current standards for the Fellowship training and examination process?
- What are the anticipated positive and negative implications of any changes impacting the volunteer workforce of supervisors and examiners?

The review is expected to take 6 months with stakeholders to be updated at the end of the project.

If you have any questions on any of the items in my report, please contact me at [po@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:po@anzcvs.org.au). For any of you attending the AVA conference in Sydney in May, I will also be manning our exhibition booth so feel free to drop in and say hello or ask any questions.

Any questions regarding the above or for more information, please contact Rachel at [po@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:po@anzcvs.org.au)

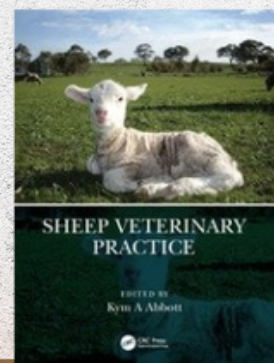
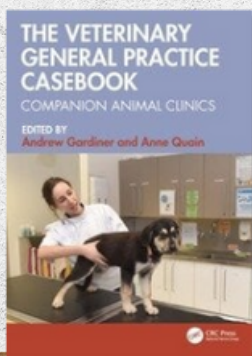


## MEMBER DISCOUNT

Use code **'ADC25'** for 30% off orders of 1-4 books.

For orders of 5-49 books, use code **'ANZBULK24'** for a massive 35% discount!

Visit: [www.routledge.com](http://www.routledge.com).





# CHAPTER REPORTS

## Animal Welfare

Our 2025 Science Week program is action packed. We are extremely excited that Emeritus Professor David Mellor (Five Domains Model) will be speaking about his life, challenges and achievements in animal welfare and he will be followed by Dr Bidda Jones AM speaking on the Mellorator, an animal welfare app that can be used by animal guardians, carers and keepers to collect comprehensive and day-to-day information about an animal's life based on the Five Domains Model. Other speaker topics include avian influenza, dog attacks, veterinary social work, non-animal alternatives in animal research, welfare of retired racehorses and using a more holistic approach to assess horse welfare.

The chapter is also calling for submissions for the 2025 Andrew Fisher Award – this is for an animal welfare paper published by a veterinary student (under and post-graduate) in the last two years. The Award is in honour of Professor Andrew Fisher who, during his career, made a significant contribution to animal welfare science and who sadly passed away last year. The successful recipient will receive \$500 to attend and present at Science Week. Deadline for submissions is 31st March – [secretaryanimalwelfare@anzcv.org.au](mailto:secretaryanimalwelfare@anzcv.org.au)

Kind regards,  
Di Evans  
Animal Welfare Chapter President

## Avian Health

The Avian Chapter has had an exciting and productive period, with several key updates to share.

We had a fantastic turnout of our membership at the UPAV/AAVAC Conference in Canberra late last year, with a strong turnout and engaging presentations. The conference was a great success, culminating in a well-attended AGM, which provided valuable discussions on the future direction of avian medicine in our region.

The ANZCVS Avian Membership examinations continue to see strong interest, with a large number of candidates signing up again this year. Our membership and fellowship examination teams are working diligently to prepare examinations and ensure a fair and rigorous assessment process.

A reminder that the Alexandr Mastakov Memorial Prize is awarded annually to the highest-scoring Membership candidate in the Avian Medicine examinations. Last year's recipient was Dr Savannah Spillett from The Unusual Pet Vets in Canberra, and we look forward to recognising this year's outstanding candidate.

*Avian Health continued...*

Looking ahead, we are excited about the upcoming Unusual Pets and Avian Veterinarians Conference at the Cairns Convention Centre, from 24–26 August 2025. We encourage members to submit abstracts of their proposed presentations for consideration. Please send submissions to [elaine.robertson@ava.com.au](mailto:elaine.robertson@ava.com.au) by Monday, 17 March 2025.

Additionally, we are currently collaborating with the College to develop a secure and future-proof exam question bank storage solution. This initiative aims to streamline the examination process, ensuring a robust and efficient system for years to come while reducing the workload for examiners.

We appreciate everyone's ongoing contributions to avian medicine and look forward to another successful year ahead.

Kind regards,  
Hamish Baron  
President, ANZCVS Avian Health Chapter

## Epidemiology

### Proposed lunch time seminars

The Epi Chapter Executive have planned a couple of lunchtime seminars, tentatively scheduled for 17 April and 15 May. Zoom invitations will be sent around in the coming weeks. If you wish to present at a lunchtime seminar, or to nominate someone, please reach out to [secretaryepi@anzcv.org.au](mailto:secretaryepi@anzcv.org.au).

### ANZCVS Science Week 2025

Please join us at the Gold Coast Convention Centre for Vet Science Week 2025.

We hope to have an engaging 2.5-day program featuring sessions on antimicrobial resistance, veterinary social work, dog bites, mass poultry euthanasia in response to avian influenza, and more! We would also like to invite you to participate in a discussion on the Research Review Committee and how we can better advocate for veterinary epidemiology and public health skills. What will veterinary epidemiology and public health look like in the future? How can industries, universities, and government organisations collaborate to realise this vision?

If you have any queries or require further information about Science Week 2025, please don't hesitate to reach out to the following convenors: - Tiffany O'Connor and Tabita Tan at [swconvenorepi@anzcv.org.au](mailto:swconvenorepi@anzcv.org.au) - Allen Petrey at [swconvenorvph@anzcv.org.au](mailto:swconvenorvph@anzcv.org.au).

We are also seeking additional volunteers to join our team of Science Week convenors. We encourage you to consider volunteering for this rewarding role. If interested, please reach out to [swconvenorepi@anzcv.org.au](mailto:swconvenorepi@anzcv.org.au).



# CHAPTER REPORTS

## Equine

The Equine Chapter stream of Science Week is offering an exciting program this year, featuring lectures on the topics of neurology, gastroenterology and standing surgery.

Our international keynote speaker is Dr Sarah Colmer from the renowned New Bolton Centre at the University of Pennsylvania, and we have many incredible local speakers including Drs Allison Stewart, Brianna Clark, Hayley Lang, Sharon Jeong and Kristopher Hughes. The program will include a session of research abstracts featuring the latest advances in equine medicine and surgery.

There are still a few places remaining for abstract presentations and applications will remain open until March 30 – all members are encouraged to submit an abstract, especially residents in training.

In addition, the Equine Chapter is collaborating with both the Sports Medicine Chapter and Animal Reproduction Chapter to present full-day streams. The sports medicine stream will cover the topics of musculoskeletal breakdown injury and the role of neuromuscular control in rehabilitation. Speakers include our international speaker Dr Sarah Colmer and world-renowned local speakers Drs Laura Fitzharris, Ashleigh Morrice-West, Chris Whitton, Cathy McGowan and Lesley Goff. The animal reproduction stream will cover the topics of assisted reproduction techniques and equine reproductive surgery. Our amazing local speakers include Drs Andres Gambini, Jennifer Clulow, Aleona Swegen, Duncan Pearce and Amy Williamson.

The Annual General Meeting of the Equine Chapter will be held during the Science Week program on the afternoon of Friday July 25. We encourage all members to attend in-person or online (details to follow) and would also like to encourage all members to consider serving the Equine Chapter, either on the executive committee, on examinations teams or other roles such as subject standards committees.

This year, the Equine Chapter will have candidates sitting Membership examinations in the subjects of Medicine of Horses and Veterinary Practice (Equine). Members of the examination teams attended the examiners workshop in Brisbane in early February, and we thank them for their dedication and hard work preparing for the upcoming examination period. We wish all candidates well and thank current members who are serving as their mentors.

We hope to see everyone at Science Week!

Dr Nicholas Bamford  
President, Equine Chapter



## Feline

### Upcoming Election for Chapter President

The Chapter has an upcoming election for Chapter President. We have two amazing candidates: Dr. Andrea Harvey and Dr. Petra Cerna. The election for President closes at 11:59 PM on March 22nd and the results will be announced at the Chapter Special General Meeting on March 26th. An email was sent to Feline Chapter members with the link, please make sure to cast your vote and participate in this important decision. If you need a copy resent to you, please contact the [Admin Team](#).

### 2025 Science Week

Keep an eye out for our incredible 2025 Science Week lineup, with a focus on feline gastroenterology. This year, we have a combination of international and local speakers, including Dr. Jonathon Lidbury, Professor Caroline Mansfield, Dr. Jane Yu, Dr. Rebekah Donaldson, Dr. Lara Boland, and Dr. Mark Westman. It's going to be an unmissable event!

### Journal Club

And finally, a reminder about our Feline Journal Club. This occurs fortnightly on Wednesday mornings at 8AM Brisbane time. Journal articles are emailed out beforehand for discussion during the meeting. The club is very informal and a great way to learn key highlights of recently published feline literature. Topics discussed change on a regular basis. If members would like to be added to the Journal Club list, the point of contact is Dr. Wan-Ju Jao at [wjjao@catspecialists.com.au](mailto:wjjao@catspecialists.com.au).

**Thank you to our members and to the Chapter Exec  
for your continued support.**

Warm regards,  
Feline Chapter Executive Team





# CHAPTER REPORTS

## Medicine and Management of Laboratory Animals

It has been a busy start to the year as our team has been pulling together a **MASSIVE** Science Week program for you all. In a first for MMLA, our Science Week Convenors have managed to secure TWO international speakers and prepare a 2.5-day program. This is the one Science Week program you should not miss!

The MMLA has partnered with the Pathobiology Chapter for one day of our program and we have managed to secure Dr Piper Treuting, a preeminent international expert in pathobiology and laboratory animal pathology. Dr Treuting is an internationally sought after speaker in laboratory animal research and pathology, with a focus on optimising research studies.

In addition to Dr Treuting, Dr. Megan R. LaFollette, M.S., Ph.D Executive Director, The 3Rs Collaborative: [www.3rc.org](http://www.3rc.org), will be joining us before she heads off to the ANZCAART conference in Brisbane.



Photo: Dr Piper Treuting

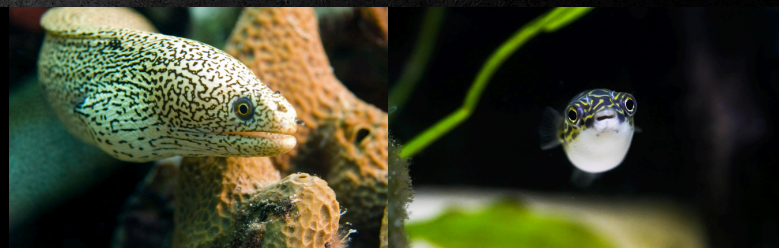


Photo: Dr Megan LaFollette

In addition to our amazing international speakers, we have a great line-up of local speakers and experts. On the final day of the program, we will have two panel sessions in which attendees and speakers can ask questions and discuss topics such as careers and career progression within the industry.

And finally, we have planned for us all to gather on Thursday evening of the conference to relax at our annual Chapter Dinner at Hideaway Kitchen & Bar at 7pm. We would love to see you all there! Please keep an eye out for the dinner invite and RSVP form. This will be an epic MMLA Science Week. We hope that you all can make it and join in on this exciting program!

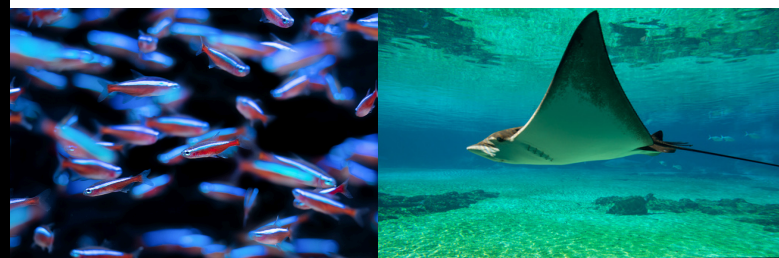
Cheers,  
Dr Emily Barrick  
Chapter President



Are you an Exc-eel extraordinaire?  
A Quiz-master connoisseur?  
A social media savant?

Wherever your strengths lie, your Chapter  
needs your help.

Reach out to your Chapter Executives or the  
College Office, to see how you can get involved.



## Oncology

The subject examinations committee (Liz Morgan, Sonya Yu, and Claire Cannon) along with Amy Lane, attended the examinations workshop in February and have been working hard on the fellowship examination.

A chapter journal club has re-started, thanks to Nick Lai for leading this initiative. If you would like to join, please contact [secretaryoncology@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:secretaryoncology@anzcvs.org.au) for details.

We are excited to have Dr Jamie Kuzich, Clinical Haematologist at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre as our keynote speaker for Science Week this year. He will be speaking about immunotherapy for B cell malignancies. The program is otherwise filled with all of the exciting research that the chapter members are doing around Australia.

We hope to see lots of people there!

Thank you,  
Johanna



# CHAPTER REPORTS

## Ophthalmology

The Ophthalmology Chapter is running a two-day program this year for Vet Science Week in the Gold Coast, where we are looking forward to hearing from Dr Ron Ofri as our keynote speaker. He will be providing lectures to the ophthalmology stream on the ocular surface disorders corneal endothelial dystrophy and episcleritis, as well as acute blindness.

We will also be combining forces with the Behaviour Chapter for a discussion on animal vision and visual optics with 2 additional lectures from Dr Ofri. With the combined stream with Behaviour we will also have 2 lectures from Dr Sara Bennett, veterinary behaviour specialist from NCSU.

We are very much looking forward to a fabulous program!

We are also now accepting applications for our annual Ophthalmology Chapter Research Grant. The \$4000 grant is aimed at helping residents and interns with an interest in eyes pursue their research in ophthalmology. As part of the application process, the research proposals are also reviewed the Grant Committee to help strengthen your research. Up to \$500 of the grant can go towards expenses associated with attending Vet Science Week for any presentation of research findings. We encourage you to apply!

Applications are due 31st March 2025, and can be sent to [secretaryophthalmology@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:secretaryophthalmology@anzcvs.org.au). Please see our [Chapter website](#) for more information.

## Pharmacology

The Pharmacology Chapter is thrilled to announce an exciting program for Science Week 2025 with our international keynote speaker, the eminent Professor Luca Guardabassi. Prof Guardabassi, a veterinary microbiologist, has advanced our understanding of antimicrobial resistance through a distinguished career of research and commitment to veterinary antimicrobial stewardship. There will be shared sessions with the Dermatology, Small Animal Medicine, Epidemiology and Veterinary Public Health Chapters.

In addition to Professor Guardabassi, we also have the pleasure of another fantastic international speaker: Professor Katrina Mealey, a veterinary pharmacologist best known for her role in the discovery of the ABCB1 (MDR1) gene in cats and dogs.

We look forward to listening to these distinguished speakers at this year's Science Week. - it is going to be an exceptional few days.

**Would you like to make a deposit to the MCQ Question Bank?**  
Contact Rachel at [po@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:po@anzcvs.org.au)



*Pharmacology continued...*



**Professor Luca Guardabassi**

Presenting on\*:

- ▶ The impact of veterinary antimicrobial usage on human health  
*shared with Epidemiology and Veterinary Public Health Chapters*
- ▶ Transmission of antimicrobial resistance between dogs and humans  
*shared Dermatology Chapter*
- ▶ Diagnostic microbiology in veterinary dermatology: present and future  
*shared with the Dermatology Chapter*
- ▶ Decoding the canine faecal microbiome: insights into health and disease  
*shared with the Small Animal Medicine Chapter*
- ▶ Evolving landscape of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius*  
*shared with the Dermatology Chapter*
- ▶ Responsible use of antimicrobials in veterinary dermatology  
*shared with the Dermatology Chapter*

\*presentation titles may be subject to change



# CHAPTER REPORTS

## Radiology

The Radiology Chapter is pleased to announce another packed Science Week programme for 2025. We are collaborating with the SA Medicine Chapter for a pre-conference day on Neurology and Neuroradiology and two joint sessions with SA Medicine on Thursday. Rounding out the remainder of our programme will be contributions from a range of our members on subjects as far reaching as Non-Technical Skills training and promoting safety culture, errors in radiology, clinical updates, abstracts, film reading sessions and new research. There is always something thought-provoking, and a room full of radiologists is always great for some humour and informed debate. We look forward to seeing you there.

Once again, in 2025 our Chapter VP Dr Mika Frances is running an online mentoring programme for Radiology Membership candidates. In this she provides case material, report writing tutorials and feedback, and runs a mock practical examination. Mika's contributions greatly enhance the candidate experience and preparedness, and the Chapter owes her a great debt of gratitude. There is an opportunity to contribute to your profession, and if you would like to help with providing a radiographic case with a report, or offering a tutorial on your favourite bandwagon subject, then do get in touch via [secretaryradiology@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:secretaryradiology@anzcvs.org.au).

Belinda  
President, Veterinary Radiology Chapter

## Small Animal Medicine

Dear Members,

I hope you've all had a chance to relax and recharge recently. The Chapter Executive Team has been working hard on exciting initiatives and events to keep our community engaged and thriving. We've had a successful Medicine Masterclass in the beautiful Mornington Peninsula (see photo).



*Small Animal Medicine continued...*

A huge thank you to our engaging speakers Julien Dandrieux, Matt Munro, Adrian Witham and Penny Thomas, as well as our always supportive sponsors, Royal Canin and Protexin. The event was a great success and we're currently deciding on the location for next year's Medicine Masterclass, so stay tuned!

We've launched our SAM Support Series: one down and three to go! These webinars are designed to support you and your professional growth, so don't miss them!

- Performance Coaching with Clinical Psychologist Helen D'Silva on 25/03/2025
- Perfectionism in Vets with Clinical Psychologist Eileen Seah on 28/04/2025
- Our Membership Exam Panel Q&A on 21/05/2025

## SAM SUPPORT SERIES 2025

### FELLOWSHIP EXAM PANEL DISCUSSION

- MONDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 7PM AEST
- SUITABLE FOR: CURRENT & FUTURE SAM FELLOWSHIP CANDIDATES AND THEIR SUPERVISORS

### CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST SESSION: HELEN D'SILVA

- TUESDAY 25TH MARCH 6.30PM AEST
- SUITABLE FOR: ALL VETERINARIANS
- PERFORMANCE COACHING FOR HIGH LEVEL EXAMS

### CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST SESSION: EILEEN SEAH

- MONDAY 28TH APRIL 6PM AEST
- SUITABLE FOR: ALL VETERINARIANS
- PERFECTIONISM IN VETS

### MEMBERSHIP EXAM PANEL DISCUSSION

- WEDNESDAY 21ST MAY 8PM AEST
- SUITABLE FOR: FUTURE SAM MEMBERSHIP CANDIDATES

SEE FUTURE EMAILS FOR TICKET INFORMATION



Thank you to our sponsor  
**Hill's** for supporting our chapter and members



**FREE FOR ALL SAM  
CHAPTER MEMBERS**



# CHAPTER REPORTS

## Small Animal Medicine continued...

VSW25 is shaping up to be an amazing event. Mark it in your diary because you won't want to miss the phenomenal neurology themed pre-congress day, along with the full congress program. It's sure to be a fantastic experience for all!

A reminder to support those around you who are studying for fellowship and membership exams. It's a tough journey and your encouragement can make all the difference.

A huge thank you to all those who have volunteered to be examiners. It has been a long journey over the last six months, with more work ahead and we deeply appreciate your efforts and diligence in putting together a thoughtful and fair exam for our SAM peers. Your dedication plays a crucial role in maintaining the high standards of our exam process.

At this year's AGM, we will be recruiting a new Secretary, Vice President and VSW Convenor. These are fantastic opportunities to get involved, network and make a real impact. If you're passionate about contributing, we encourage you to consider volunteering for one of these roles!

There's so much to look forward to and I'm thrilled to see how these initiatives will bring our community even closer together. Thanks to everyone who has been working behind the scenes to make all of this possible. Keep learning, keep growing and as always, keep saving those animals!

Best regards,  
Elizabeth Thrift  
SAM Chapter President



## Small Ruminant

Unfortunately the expected goat candidate who was being mentored for the last year, had to pull out due to a new position but there are several sheep candidates about to sit their membership exams and we wish them all the best. Several members have done the training and are working on a bank of multiple choice questions for future years.

The chapter did not have the volunteers to run a program for Science Week and many members are heavily involved helping with the planning for the International Sheep Veterinary Congress to be held in Wollongong, NSW from 27 to 31 October 2025.

A reminder that FAMACHA® cards are available to purchase for sheep, camelid and goat owners. We also sell batches to vet schools. Email [presidentmallruminant@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:presidentmallruminant@anzcvs.org.au) for more information.



## Small Ruminant continued...

The President did find the time to do the following webinars:

- Polioencephalomalacia, coccidiosis and goitre for Agrifures via neXtgen Agri and the [Goat Fibre Network](#) which is now on their YouTube channel ([watch here](#)).
- Stocksense by the Victorian Farmers Federation which is now on their YouTube channel ([watch here](#)).
- Urinary calculi in goats

She also did a podcast for the Goat Fibre Network that can be [listened to here](#).

## Surgery

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for the large amount of feedback that they have provided to the chapter executive since the last AGM, and would encourage all Members and Fellows to continue to reach out to us with any suggestions or advice.

I've personally spent most of the time since the last update overseas- meanwhile, the Science Week and Examination teams have been hard at work with their respective duties. I can see-through their tireless efforts- that we have the best people in their roles.

While I'd like to give everyone a more detailed overview of the whole Science Week program, there are a few last details to iron out before I can fully release everything, but the team have assured me that almost everything is in place for what looks to be an absolutely first-class program that I'm sure early-career and experienced surgeons alike will find both enjoyable and informative. The orthopaedics sessions are always very well attended, so I encourage everyone to set aside time in your schedules and get in early to ensure a place in the main program and seminars/workshops once they are released.

I would like to also start the ball rolling for next year, and ask everyone who is currently not involved in the chapter committee or working as an examiner and would like to, to please let me know by contacting me on [presidentsurgery@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:presidentsurgery@anzcvs.org.au). I would like to get as many people as possible working together for the advancement of the chapter.

For those of you who are preparing for your examinations, on behalf of the chapter, I wish you good luck, and hope all your efforts are rewarded.

Blaine McCracken FANZCVS  
Chapter President



# CHAPTER REPORTS

## Veterinary Public Health

### Vet Science Week

The chapter will run a two-and-a-half-day program at Vet Science Week 2025. Presentations developed in collaboration with the Epidemiology, Animal Welfare and Pharmacology Chapters will cover antimicrobial use and resistance, dog bites, mass chicken euthanasia, bat viruses – beyond Hendra, and veterinary social work. Two speakers from Australia's Cooperative Research Centre for Solving Antimicrobial Resistance in Agribusiness, Food, and Environments (CRC SAAFE) have been invited to address environmental implications of antimicrobial use. Additionally, 20-minute abstract presentations have also been invited.

### Examinations

#### Membership

The biennial membership examinations will be offered in 2026. The closing date for applications to sit these exams is 31 October 2025 with an imposed late-fee application period, 1-30 November.

And while an outreach exercise on the value of VPH membership has been undertaken with the Australian and New Zealand veterinary authorities, don't hesitate to approach colleagues who you think may be interested. Membership application information is shown at [www.anzcv.org.au/membership/](http://www.anzcv.org.au/membership/)

#### Fellowship

As detailed in the December Courier, the College Board of Examiners have approved our Fellowship Subject Study Guidelines and agreed our use of the Fellowship 'Fast Track' option to build up a cadre of VPH Fellows. At the same time the Board required us to articulate a pathway for a formal traditional fellowship training.

Interest has been shown in the fast-track option with Chapter Secretary providing support to those that have contacted him.

#### FAST TRACKED

'Fast-tracked or fast-tracking' means dispensing with the requirement to complete a membership examination or any College approved training program before advancing to Fellowship.

Two groups of candidates [are] considered eligible for fast-tracking:

- Those who have successfully completed a Diplomate examination in one of the American Colleges, European Colleges or the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons;
- Those who are eminent veterinarians with extensive depth and breadth of training, scholarship and experience and a record of academic and practical excellence as otherwise defined by the Council.

Section 2.13 Fellowship Candidate Handbook refers

### Veterinary Public Health continued...

Members who believe they fit the application criteria are urged to read the College's [Fellowship Candidate Handbook](#) and in particular the Sections dealing with 'Fast Tracking'. [Section 2.13 pp 34-35] and Submission of Credentials Document [Section 4 pp 46-49].

The Chapter executive believes the earliest fellowship exams can be held is 2026. For potential candidates in that year:

- Submission of the mandatory Intention to Sit application form deadline is 30th June 2025. See [Fellowship Intention to Sit – ANZCVS](#) and,
- The deadline for submission of the Credentials Document is 31st October 2025.

### FORMAL FELLOWSHIP BY TRAINING

Shortly after publicising the approval of our Fellowship Study Guide, a College Member approached the Chapter Secretary about the feasibility of commencing a VPH Fellowship by training. Michael Reichel, chair of VPH's Fellowship Standards Committee and the Secretary are working with the interested member to assist with any approach to ANZCVS' Chair of Examiners on this matter.

### Member News

Our peripatetic committee member, Michael Reichel is presently travelling in Europe and has supplied the following photo.



Photo: Oxford University in Spring

It brings to mind another Peripatetic - Aristotle, who taught while walking in the Lyceum of ancient Athens.

Kevin Crews  
President, VPH Chapter



# CHAPTER REPORTS

## Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation

Monthly Canine online VSMR journal club meetings have been held since November. The sessions are casual but focused on discussing rehabilitation trends & the evidence behind them, whilst also being a great opportunity to catch up with colleagues over a quick morning coffee. The articles are sent out about 1-2 weeks before the meeting. We encourage members to take turns presenting one paper each (structured template provided). Hosted by Dr. Ah Young Kim, this monthly meeting is currently aimed at people with a canine VSMR interest.

Our next Canine VSMR Journal Club meetings are scheduled for 0800 Canberra time on Thursdays 3 April, 8 May and 12 June 2025. All interested parties are welcome to attend. The canine journal club meetings are recorded in case you missed one & want to listen in.

An equine VSMR journal club is also run every fortnight in conjunction with University of Queensland with Dr. Ben Ahern as the host & coordinator. Please get in touch with the chapter Secretary to express your interest in either!

The VSMR Science Week Coordinating team are really excited to share that not only have we organised for Amie Hesbach PT, DPT, MS, CCRP, CCRT to lead our pre-conference workshop (Wednesday 23 July 2025) on neurologic rehabilitation techniques (Save the date!) and to be our keynote speaker for the Science Week conference, but we have also convened an array of Australian (Naomi Boyd, Leah Bradbury, Patrick Kenny, Jack Davey, Ah Young Kim & Shin Ling) and international speakers (Barbara Royal, Janet Van Dyke) to discuss various state of the art aspects of neurologic patient care over Thursday 24th & Friday 25th July. It is going to be an exciting and thought-provoking series of lectures, and we look forward to seeing everyone there. The equine VSMR sessions are being convened for Saturday 26th July in conjunction with the equine chapter and are centered around rehabilitation associated with musculoskeletal breakdown.

We are currently looking for some volunteer neurologically affected dogs to be used as demonstration dogs in our pre-conference workshop (Wednesday 23 July 2025). Please contact [swconvenorvsmr@anzcvs.org.au](mailto:swconvenorvsmr@anzcvs.org.au) if you would like more information as to what would be involved, or have patients / dogs yourself that would be interested in sharing part of their day with us, so that we can learn how to improve our neurologic rehabilitation outcomes.



[Lucy's Project](#) is a national charity that aims to improve the safety of people and animals experiencing domestic and family violence through collaboration, advocacy, research and education. With two-thirds of Australian households having at least one animal, this means that in situations of domestic and family violence there is likely to be an animal present and, in many cases, the animal is also experiencing abuse.

We believe that assisting clinicians to feel confident in the next steps to take if they are concerned they may be witnessing a case of intentional animal injury and domestic abuse is imperative to both animal and human welfare, including for the mental health of the veterinarian involved.

We have just finished compiling our October 2024 conference report, summarising key learnings and suggested actionable steps for animal inclusivity in domestic and family violence responses. You can [view the report here](#).

If you weren't able to catch the sessions live but are keen on catching up - recordings of the conference sessions are now available here: [Lucy's Project - 2024 Conference Recordings](#).

Building on the success of the pilot conference for Lucy's Project, we have now confirmed 2025's dates. They are free of charge to anyone working, volunteering or otherwise involved with people and animals experiencing domestic and family violence.

A summary of the program and prospective registrants can sign up through <https://lucysproject.com/education>.



lucy's project

**Collaborate  
Advocate  
Research  
Educate**



# COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Vet Science Week 2025  
Early Bird Registration  
opens April 2025

[www.vetscienceweek.com.au](http://www.vetscienceweek.com.au)

**Use of College brand assets,  
including name and logos:**

Please refer to the College Style Guide for the correct use of College branding and logos.

The use of the College Coat of Arms is granted to members only for the purpose of displaying, communicating and promoting their membership in ANZCVS and alongside the Member's name and postnominals (in official College font, Fira Sans).

See example below.



## Reminder:

We have seen a significant increase in phishing and scam attempts in recent weeks, with several spoofing the names of Chapter Executives' and appearing to come from known contacts.

Stay alert to scams and phishing attempts, as scammers are always devising clever tactics to deceive. They may even appear to come from a fellow College member or someone you know.

Is the sender's email address their usual email address? A quick phone call can help verify the legitimacy of a request and protect your valuable finances or data from being compromised.

If you find yourself a recipient of a scam email or phishing attempt, report the email by right-clicking on the email, hover the cursor over Report and click on Report Phishing.

**CHECK | REJECT | PROTECT**

**A reminder to members on the  
correct use of postnominals:**

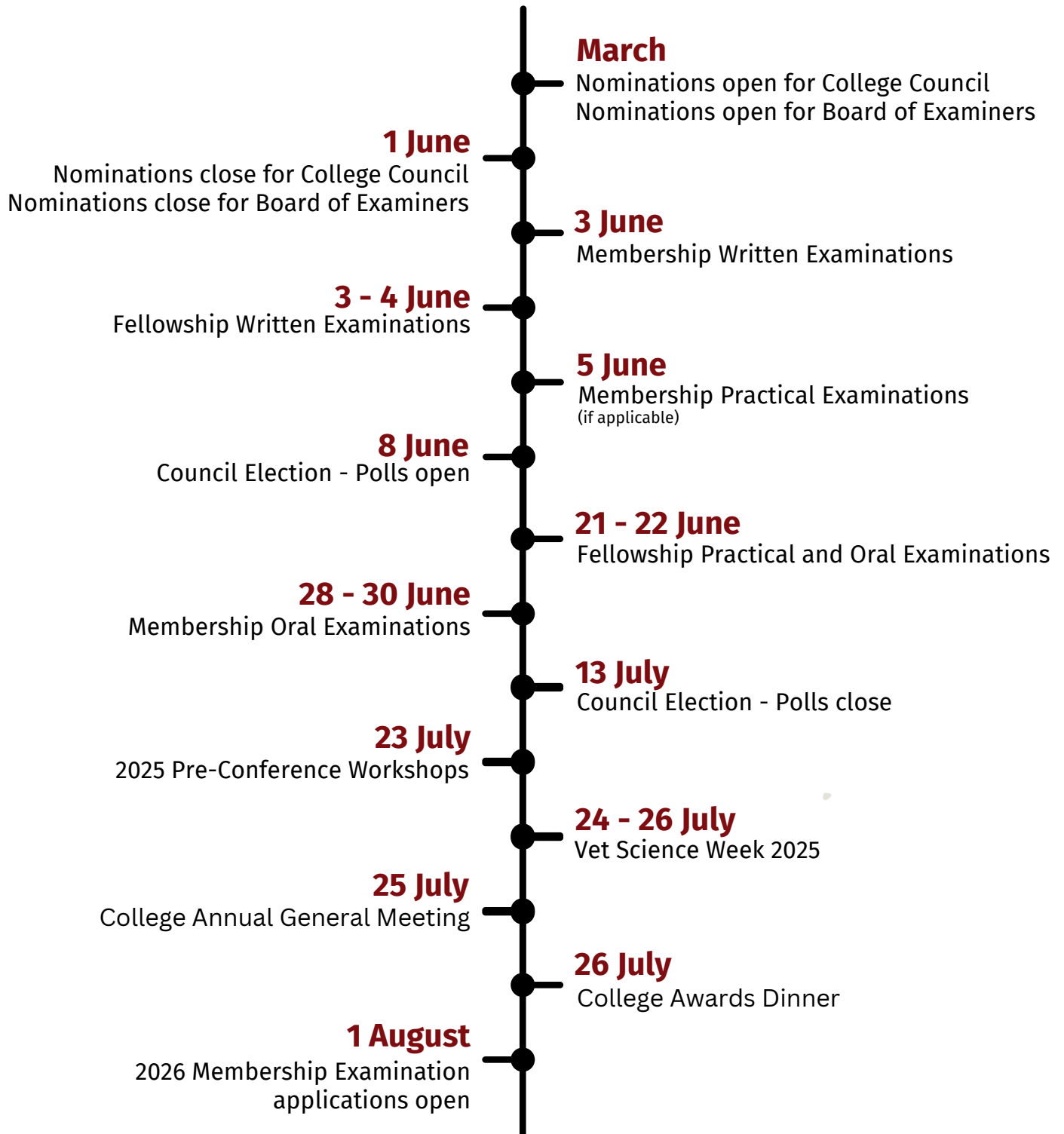
**If awarded in or before 2010:**

Use of the initials MACVSc or MANZCVS for Members / FACVSc or FANZCVS for Fellows; followed by the subject(s) in brackets.  
Example: FACVSc (Veterinary Radiology)

**If awarded in or after 2011:**

Use of the initials MANZCVS for Members / FANZCVS for Fellows; followed by the subject(s) in brackets.  
Example: MANZCVS (Animal Welfare)

# ANZCVS 2025 KEY DATES



If you would like to contribute or request an article to be included in future College Couriers, please reach out to the College Office team!





Certifying excellence  
in veterinary science

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