PhD Studentship:

Novel strategies for feline pain recognition, assessment and treatment using a multi-disciplinary approach and artificial intelligence

Centre for Animal Health and Welfare, Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences, City University of Hong Kong

Project Description:

The Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences (JCC, https://www.cityu.edu.hk/jcc/) is building a team of internationally renowned researchers who are actively engaged in advancing animal health and welfare. We aim to make a significant contribution to Hong Kong as a regional hub for One Health and Animal Welfare education, through the provision of high-quality education at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

The selected PhD student will be part of the Steagall laboratory (https://scholars.cityu.edu.hk/en/persons/paulo-vinicius-mortensen-steagall(a83474ed-2145-4241-a5b6-0e1f933f28df).html), an exciting team of students, researchers and collaborators working together to better understand and treat pain in animals. We study naturally-occurring, spontaneous pain in animals with a particular focus in cats. We work to make the world a better place for animals.

The PhD candidate will explore novel strategies for feline pain recognition, assessment and treatment using a multi-disciplinary approach and artificial intelligence. The specific research project will be determined based on current opportunities and funding. Previous research work by the group can be found here: https://www.felinegrimacescale.com/more-about-our-work

The postgraduate student will be based in Hong Kong, one of the most amazing and vibrant cities in the world with numerous opportunities to explore nature, water sports, hiking and international cuisine. The city is an international hub of the world and Southern Asia.

Attributes, requirements and EDI

The project would suit, preferentially, someone with previous research experience in veterinary anaesthesiology, pain management, behaviour and/or artificial intelligence. The candidate should be motivated, organised and a team-player. Respect, empathy and care for animals are a must. Priority will be given to candidates with a veterinary and MSc degree, and those with clinical experience. Previous experience in manuscript writing and scientific communication skills are an additional asset. The candidate should meet the City University of Hong Kong's standard requirements to be considered for a PhD studentship (https://www.cityu.edu.hk/pg/). International students are required to provide evidence of their proficiency in English language skills. Funding is available for four years.

The Steagall laboratory values equity, diversity, and inclusion; every person has a right to equal treatment, and we are strengthened by diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences.

Contact and deadline:

Interested applicants are invited to submit a cover letter outlining their interests and some potential research ideas, as well as a short, 2-page CV via email to Prof Paulo Steagall at pmortens@cityu.edu.hk **by Jun 30, 2022**. CVs must include degree grade details and GPA scores, because they are a requirement of the graduate school admissions system of City University of Hong Kong. Selected individuals will be contacted for an interview shortly after. Starting date of the project: January 2023.