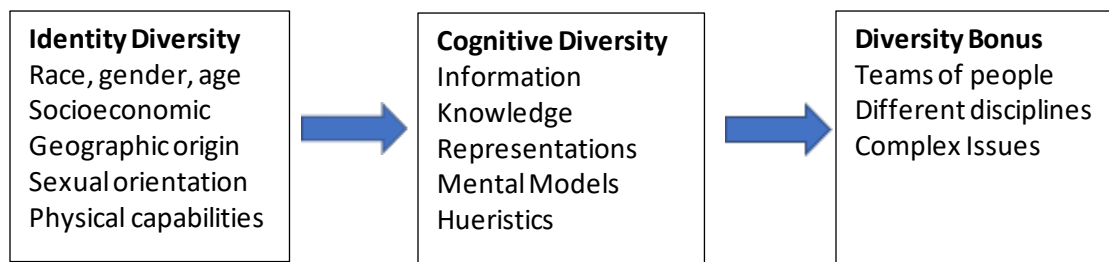


Dear JCC Community,

Greetings from chilly Melbourne, where I joined the Australasian Veterinary Board's Council (AVBC) Sustainable Practice forum, along with the Deans of Veterinary Schools in Australia and New Zealand, the Chairs of the Veterinary Schools Accreditation Advisory Committee (VSAAC), and other key stakeholders.

The topics discussed at the forum will feed into the AVBC's next strategic plan and determine the future directions of veterinary education and practice in the region. One of our adjunct Professors, Dr. Zoe Leonard, the Chair of the Sustainable Practice Committee (SPC) of the AVBC, led a workshop on revolutionising CPD frameworks, to incorporate individualised tailored reflective practice and more broad recognition of CPD areas including non-technical skills such as team work, task management, decision making and situation awareness.

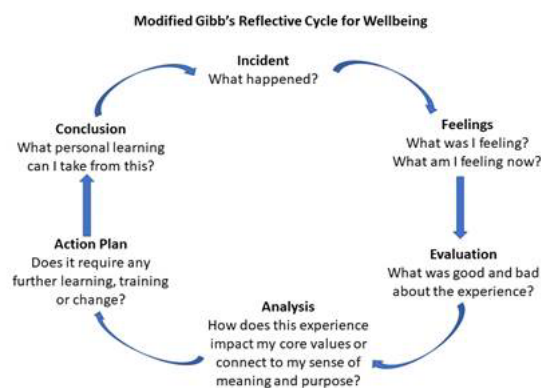
Dr. Andy Maccabe, the CEO of the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) spoke about the future of veterinary education. He emphasised the importance of **cognitive diversity**, citing Scott E. Page's book *The Diversity Bonus*, which explains that the presence of cognitive diversity, which is most influenced by identity diversity, drives the diversity bonus.



Dr. Rick Read, a specialist veterinary surgeon, left the University of Murdoch's veterinary school 12 years ago to establish the Centre for Wellbeing and Sustainable Practice at the Royal Hospital in Perth. He became a doctors' wellbeing officer and set up a program of peer support for house officers (intern doctors) based on the **four pillars of wellbeing**:

1. Developing self-awareness
2. Accepting the way things are (there are some things we can't control)
3. Responding creatively
4. Being anchored in your sense of purpose

Rick also emphasised the value of reflective practice based on a modified Gibb's reflection cycle (see below).



Other issues raised were the importance of One Welfare, which is a triad and sibling of One Health, better resources to help students transition to practice, the global shortage of veterinarians and veterinary specialists, mentoring for employability and transitioning out of clinical practice.

Finally, it seems clear that the AVBC going forward, will adopt a Day one competency (D1C) framework that includes the D1C of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and <https://www.rcvs.org.uk/news-and-views/publications/rcvs-day-one-competences-feb-2022/> and the competency based veterinary education framework of the AAVMC: <https://cbve.org/>

Back in Hong Kong it has been a busy two weeks for all departments, with end of semester teaching and preparation for exams, as well as many facilities visits and meetings between staff involved in BVM teaching and our visiting educational consultant Professor Norman Williamson. So far, important action points highlighted by Prof. Williamson include the need for clear corridors during the accreditation visits (fire hazard), elimination of black mould on the walls and ceiling of the Anatomy Dissection Laboratory (and anywhere else on campus and modifications of the isolation facility at CityU farm for optimal biosecurity. Professor Norman will be here until next Thursday.

Have a relaxing weekend.

Vanessa Barrs
Acting Dean



Jockey Club College of Veterinary
Medicine and Life Sciences

香港城市大學
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in collaboration with Cornell University



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News From Our Departments

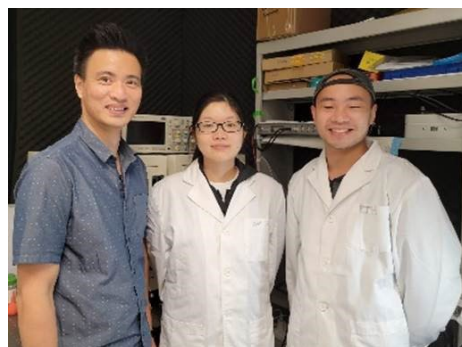
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Research updates

New publication:

- A research team co-led by **Dr Geoffrey LAU**, Assistant Professor in the Department of Neuroscience, recently identified and developed a new drug candidate that has potential for effectively treating Temporal lobe epilepsy (TLE) by suppressing neuroinflammation. (*Press Release on Research Stories of CityU Research*)
CityU neuroscientists discover a new drug candidate for treating epilepsy

<https://www.cityu.edu.hk/research/stories/2022/11/24/cityu-neuroscientists-discover-new-drug-candidate-treating-epilepsy>



- **Prof Ying LI** and his team of researchers and research students have published “Astrocytes in CA1 modulate schema establishment in the hippocampal-cortical neuron network” at *BMC Biology* (A+ journal) on 10 November 2022.
- **Dr. Eddie MA** and his team of researchers and research students have published “A small molecule M1 promotes optic nerve regeneration to restore target-specific neural activity and visual function” at *PNAS* (A+ journal) on 28 October, 2022.
- **Dr Geoffrey LAU** and his team of researchers and research students have published “Activation of Somatostatin-Expressing Neurons in the Lateral Septum Improves Stress-Induced Depressive-like Behaviors in Mice” at *MDPI* on 21 October 2022



Student Award

- Two research students, Mr. Junming REN & MR. Zhoujian XIAO, supervised by **Prof Jufang HE**, has been awarded the *Certificate of Merit Award – Student Innovation* in *Hong Kong ICT Awards 2022* with their proposal on “DeepSeizure:Video based Automated Epilepsy Seizure Recognition System of Animal Model for Preclinical Drug Development”

PH

Research updates

New publication:

- Muhammad Ibrahim, Sohail Ahmad, Israr Uddin, Waqas Ahmad, Ijaz Ahmad, Sher Hayat Khan, Ihtesham Ul Haq, Jehan Zeb, **Olivier Andre Sparagano (2022)**. Microsatellite Analysis Revealed Potential DNA Markers for Gestation Length and Sub–Population Diversity in Kari Sheep. *Animals*. (in press).
- Babatunde Akinwunmi, MD, MPH, MMSc1,2; **Wai-Kit Ming**, MD, PhD, MPH3, “Evaluating Vaginal Progesterone in Preventing Recurrent Preterm Birth: A Call to Action”, *JAMA NETWORK OPEN* (IF 13.36), 31 October 2022, <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2797994>
- Qiyu He, Zheng Dou, Zhanhao Su, Huayan Shen, Tsz-Ngai Mok, Casper J.P. Zhang, Jian Huang, Wai-Kit Ming, Shoujun Li, “Inpatient costs of congenital heart surgery in China: Results from the National Centre for Cardiovascular Diseases”, *Lancet Regional Health* (IF 8.56), 08 November 2022, [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanwpc/article/PIIS2666-6065\(22\)00238-3/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanwpc/article/PIIS2666-6065(22)00238-3/fulltext)
- Giraudet CSE, Liu K, **McElligott AG**, Cobb M. In Press. [Are children and dogs best friends? A scoping review to explore the positive and negative effects of child-dog interactions. PEERJ](#) (new paper accepted)
- Perroux TA, **McElligott AG**, Briefer EF. (2022) Goat kid recognition of their mothers' calls is not impacted by changes in source-filter parameters. [Journal of Zoology](#)

Internal Service

- Prof. Sophie ST-HILAIRE hosted a seminar “Senior Scholars Roundtable Session on Innovative Teaching at CityU” on 30 November 2022. See attached the poster.

External Service

- **Pfeiffer, D.U.** (2022): “Innovations for Increasing Agricultural Production – Control and Prevention of Transboundary Animal Diseases”. Invited talk at Asia-Pacific Symposium on Agrifood Systems Transformation; 5 - 7 October 2022, Bangkok, Thailand.
- **Pfeiffer, D.U.** (2022): “Changing Nature of Surveillance and Epidemiological Understanding of ASF in Asia-Pacific Region.” WOA Regional Avian Disease Expert Group Network Meeting in Asia and the Pacific Region & 1st laboratory expert network meeting on African Swine Fever for Asia and the Pacific, 2 – 4 November 2022, Geelong, Australia.

- **Pfeiffer, D.U.** (2022): 'Risk factors driving zoonotic infections' with talk 'Eco-social system dynamics and emergence of infectious diseases'. Invited talk at World One Health Congress, 7 – 11 November 2022, Singapore.
- **Pfeiffer, D.U.** (2022) attended 43rd Animal Production and Health Commission for Asia and the Pacific Business session, 11 November 2022 p.m., Singapore.
- **Pfeiffer, D.U.** (2022) attended Fourth Meeting on Countering Zoonotic Spillover of High Consequence Pathogens, 12 – 13 November 2022, Singapore.
- **Prof. Dirk Pfeiffer** is a member of Advisory Group of World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) for the development of ASEAN African Swine Fever Control Strategy from November 2022.
- **Dr. Alan McElligott** attended ASAB (Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour, <https://www.asab.org/edia-committee>) EDIA Committee meeting on 17 November 2022.
- **Dr. Alan McElligott** attended a "Buttercups Sanctuary for Goats" (<https://www.buttercups.org.uk/>) Trustees meeting on 23 November 2022.
- **Dr. Alan McElligott** attended ASAB (Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour, <https://www.asab.org/education-committee>) Education Committee meeting on 28 November 2022.

Media

- Topic: Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in South China Morning Post (SCMP) on 27 November 2022 by **Dr. MING Wai Kit**, "Sore throat? Antibiotics most likely won't help you, experts say, and overuse is causing deadly resistance that's become a leading global killer" <https://www.scmp.com/lifestyle/health-wellness/article/3200987/sore-throat-antibiotics-most-likely-wont-help-you-experts-say-and-overuse-causing-deadly-resistance>
- Topic: COVID-19 in Hong Kong in local media - WenWeiPo(文匯報) on 14 November 2022 by **Dr. MING Wai Kit**, "內地連三日感染破萬 多地積極優化防疫" (Chinese) More than 10,000 infections in the mainland for three consecutive days, actively optimizing epidemic prevention (Translation) <https://www.wenweipo.com/a/202211/14/AP637192eee4b09044e5126d45.html>
- Topic: COVID-19 in Hong Kong in Hong Kong Local media - WenWeiPo(文匯報) on 13 November 2022 by **Dr. MING Wai Kit**, "廣州疫情仍未現拐點 專家：一區一策推動防疫更精準" (Chinese) The epidemic situation in Guangzhou has not yet reached a turning point. Experts: One district, one policy to promote more accurate epidemic prevention (Translation) <https://www.wenweipo.com/a/202211/13/AP6370ea97e4b09044e5125c75.html>

VCS

Teaching updates



- In this semester, we have launched numbers of new courses including Equine Medicine and Surgery and Production Animal Clinical Studies. We would like to thank our creative and productive Clinical Skills Team for their tremendous efforts in creating and procuring a variety of teaching models to enhance the students' learning experience in different practicals, including Bovine Dystocia, Milking and Mastitis, Ruminant Caesarean, Reproduction, Castration & IV Catheter, etc.

Research updates

- Hosted by **Dr Pawel Beczkowski**, Ms Åshild Roaldset, CEO of Norwegian Society for Protection of Animals, gave a presentation on dogs breeding and the shared responsibility among breeders & authorities on proper breeding. Please reach out for recordings if you couldn't join us live.
- **Dr Antonio Giuliano** is invited as the guest editor of "Advancement in Small Animals Oncology" in *Animals*

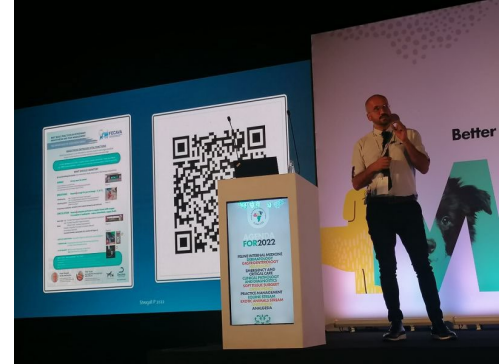


Publications:

- **McDermott, Colin T.**, Charles J. Innis, Akinyi C. Nyaoke, Kathryn A. Tuxbury, Julie M. Cavin, E. Scott Weber, Deana Edmunds, Stéphane Lair, Jill V. Spangenberg, Amy L. Hancock-Ronemus, Catherine A. Hadfield, Leigh A. Clayton, Thomas B. Waltzek, Connie F. Cañete-Gibas, Nathan P. Wiederhold, and Salvatore Frasca Jr. 2022. "Phaeohyphomycosis due to *Exophiala* in Aquarium-Housed Lumpfish (*Cyclopterus lumpus*): Clinical Diagnosis and Description" *Pathogens* 11, no. 12: 1401.

Service Updates

- **Professor Paulo Steagall** presented the FECAVA Basic Practices in Anaesthesia and Analgesia at the first [Middle East and Africa Veterinary Conference](#) in Dubai.



- **Dr Angel Almendros** and **Dr Colin McDermott** were invited as speakers at the [5th Conference of Continuing Education for the Veterinarians of Bangladesh](#) to share their veterinary knowledge in small animals and exotics animals with the participants. It is great to see our CityU faculty involved in these community projects helping out vets from other countries.

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