



Dear JCC Community,

This week I travelled to Sapporo in Hokkaido for the World Organization of Animal Health's sub-regional meeting of Veterinary Education Establishments combined with a meeting of the Association of Asian Veterinary Schools (AAVS). The meeting was attended by the Deans of most of the ASEAN veterinary schools including mainland China, Japan, Tokyo, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Pakistan, Mongolia etc as well as government representatives from AFCD and equivalent organisations.

It was an excellent forum to share the challenges and opportunities of veterinary education in our region and some strong collaborations will follow. The AAVS is a dynamic, energetic organisation and held their inaugural Veterinary Education meeting at which CityU flew the flag high with multiple oral abstract presentations from our clinical skills researchers including Susanne Taylor, Akos Kenez and Kate Flay.

In other good news enrolments in the BMS and BVM programmes were stellar this year. The BVM continues to lead the university with the highest ranked HKDSE/IB entrance scores, while BMS is making excellent strides and is now ranked third in the University after the Law School. Congratulations to the hardworking admissions teams who made this happen.

I hope the new semester is bringing new opportunities for all. I never cease to be inspired by our students, who are after all, the reason why we are here.

Kind regards

Dean



Jockey Club College of Veterinary  
Medicine and Life Sciences

香港城市大學  
City University of Hong Kong  
in collaboration with Cornell University



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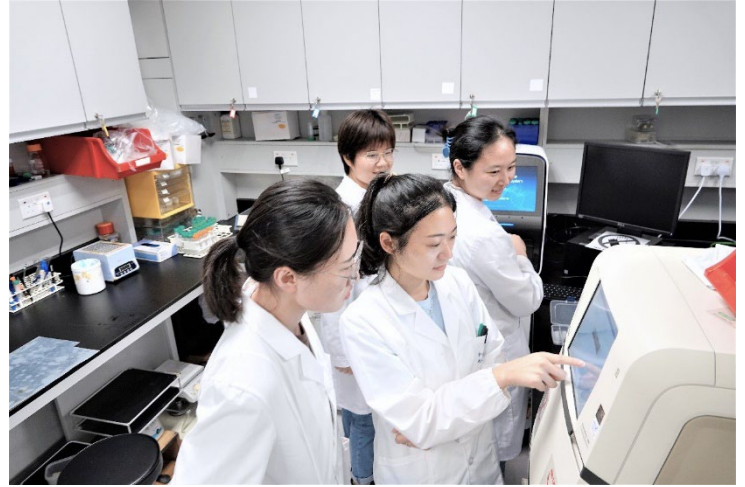
Adjunct Professor  
Department of Population Medicine and  
Diagnostic Sciences  
Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine  
**Cornell University**

# News From Our Departments

## Biomedical Sciences

**Research** (included new awards, new publications, new **successful** external grants, etc.)

- **Dr PU Yujie**, a postdoctoral fellow under the supervision of **Prof. HUANG Yu** received a National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)-Young Scientists Fund (國家自然科學基金委-青年科學基金項目) on 24 August 2023.



### Award



- We are happy to share that our MSc Student **Mr NG Chelon Colin** and the Start-up he founded became Winner and were awarded in the 1st HK Tech 300 National Startup Competition.

### Events

- New BSc in Biological Sciences and BSc in Biomedical Sciences students kicked off their academic journey with an exciting **Undergraduate Orientation** on 29 August 2023. The UG Orientation went beyond information-sharing; it created a vibrant community. Students connected with faculty members and fellow peers, forming bonds that will fuel collaboration and growth throughout their undergraduate journey. It was just the beginning of an enthusiastic academic year that shapes students' futures and empower them to make a lasting impact on the scientific landscape.





(MSHSM) students embarked on their academic journey with an engaging and informative **MSHSM Orientation** event held on September 4, 2023. The department head extended a heartfelt greeting to the incoming MSHSM students. The Program Leader and Deputy Program Leader providing a detailed overview of the MSHSM program, career prospects and project study guidelines. Following the presentation, the students were taken on a laboratory tour, giving them a firsthand look at the state-of-the-art facilities and equipment available in the Biomedical Sciences (BMS) lab.



## Neuroscience

### Events / Outreach



- Prof Xin LUO, Associate Professor, College of Health Solutions, Arizona State University, delivered a seminar entitled “Understanding and Enhancing Pitch Perception with Cochlear Implants” on 31 August 2023.



- Dr. Yu FU, Senior Principal Investigator, Head of Brain Plasticity Group, Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, Agency for Science, presented a seminar entitled “Feeding Regulation by Tuberal Nucleus Somatostatin Neurons and their Role in Neurodegeneration” on 24 August 2023.



- Professor Jinpeng SUN, Executive Vice President, Institute for Advanced Medical Research, Shandong University, delivered a joint seminar entitled “Discovery of membrane receptor subfamily to sense steroid hormones and the mechanism of force, itch and odor perception by GPCR” on 15 August 2023

*Discovery of membrane receptor subfamily to sense steroid hormones and the mechanism of force, itch and odor perception by GPCR*



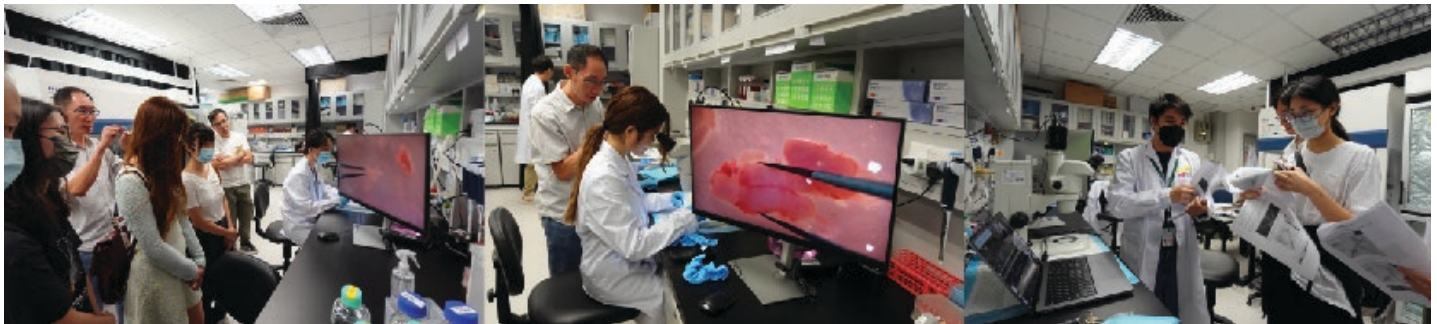


- Professor Xiaoming LI, Vice President of Zhejiang University presented a seminar entitled “Fear, Anxiety and Depression” on 11 August 2023.



## Service

- Dr. Kwok On LAI and his lab members organized a laboratory visit on 29 August 2023 for secondary school students to the Department of Neuroscience, during which the students were introduced the various techniques used in studying neuroscience at the cellular level.



## Staff



We are delighted to announce that promotion of Professor Jan SCHNUPP to Chair Professor in Department of Neuroscience, please join us in congratulating Professor Schnupp on this remarkable achievement.

# Veterinary Clinical Sciences

## Research

- **Professor Vanessa Barrs** attended the 34<sup>th</sup> European Veterinary Dermatology Congress in Gothenburg Sweden during 31 August - 2 September 2023 as one of key speakers to talk about feline coronavirus infections and deep cutaneous fungal infections.
- **Professor Stefan Hobi** organised the resident day, which takes place one day after the European Veterinary Dermatology Congress. This day is not only for ECVD residents but dermatology residents from all over the world. It was a great success with over 40 participants and great speakers including Vanessa Barrs (Infectious Skin Diseases), Nico Schoemaker (Small Mammal Skin Diseases), Yvonne Van Zeeland (Feather Diseases), Ana Boncea (Selfcare During Exam Preparation) and Annette Boegel (Product Development).







- **Professor Colin McDermott** attended the joint annual meeting of the Association of Reptile and Amphibian Veterinarians, Association of Exotic Mammal Veterinarians, and the Association of Avian Veterinarians in Boston, Massachusetts, USA from 20-24 August. He moderated a session on “Reptile and Amphibian Infectious Disease”.

## Teaching

- **Professors Colin McDermott and Paulo Steagall** received a Recognition of Outstanding Teaching Performance in Semester B, 2022/2023 as they are placed as one of the top 5% teachers according to their TLQ scores at CityU.

## CAHW

- You are welcome to join the upcoming Animal Health and Welfare seminars by the CityU Centre for Animal Health and Welfare in September & October 2023. For more information, please visit: <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/cahw/news-and-events/upcoming.htm>.

### **Donkey Tales: The labour and gendering of donkeys in central Ethiopia**

**by Dr Martha Geiger**

Sep 21, 2023 (Thu) at 4-5pm (HKT)

### **Interventional Radiology Procedures in Veterinary Patients: When, Why, If**

**by Dr Josh Steinhaus**

Oct 26, 2023 (Thu), 4-5pm (HKT)

The poster for "Donkey Tales" features a yellow and green background with a silhouette of a donkey. It includes the CityU logo, the Centre for Animal Health and Welfare logo, and the Animal Health & Welfare Seminar logo. The title "Donkey Tales: The labour and gendering of donkeys in central Ethiopia" is prominently displayed. Below the title, there is a paragraph of text describing the seminar's focus on the relationship between donkeys and humans in Ethiopia. The date and time "Sep 21 2023 (Thu) 4-5pm HKT on Zoom" are listed, along with a QR code for registration. The guest speaker, Dr. Martha Geiger, is mentioned with a small photo and her affiliation as a PhD candidate at the University of Warwick.

The poster for "Interventional Radiology Procedures in Veterinary Patients: When, Why, If" has a green and yellow background with a silhouette of a dog and a cat. It features the CityU logo, the Centre for Animal Health and Welfare logo, and the Animal Health & Welfare Seminar logo. The title is clearly visible. The text explains that the seminar will discuss the complex considerations of when to intervene in sick patients. The date and time "Oct 26 2023 (Thu) 4-5pm HKT on Zoom" are provided, along with a QR code for registration. The guest speaker, Dr. Joshua Steinhaus, is listed with a small photo and his credentials as a veterinarian at the University of Illinois.

## Others

- Upcoming Centre for Disease Control (CDC) World Health Organization (WHO) webinar shared by Professor Stefan Hobi:  
September 18–22, 2023, is US CDC Fungal Disease Awareness Week (FDAW). Each year, CDC and partners dedicate FDAW to activities and outreach that encourage everyone to 'Think Fungus'. This joint CDC WHO webinar entitled “**Fungal Diseases - Global Challenges and Opportunities**” on 18 September 2023 at 15:00 – 16:00 (Geneva Time) will kick-off the week with a global view on fungal diseases and ongoing work to tackle them. For more info, please click [here](#).

# Infectious Diseases and Public Health

## Orientation of MSc Public Health & Epidemiology: A Warm Welcome and Introduction to the Program

The orientation for the Master of Science (MSc) in Public Health & Epidemiology was held on the CityU Campus on August 29th and 30th, 2023. **Professor Huiyong YIN**, the Associate Dean (Research), and Department Head **Professor Olivier SPARAGANO** were present at the event, both offering a warm welcome to the incoming students.

The event also featured **Professor Patrick BUTAYE**, the faculty representative, who shared his insights and experiences with the students. His inspirational words were aimed at motivating the students and providing them with a glimpse of the enriching journey they have embarked on.



The program's leader, **Professor Ming Wai Kit**, then introduced the MSc Public Health & Epidemiology Program & Curriculum. Professor Ming highlighted the in-depth nature of the course, designed to prepare the students for a successful career in public health.



Following the introduction, **Mr. Richard SHAH** led a two-day Induction Program, which provided the students with essential information about the course, the faculty, and the university. The induction program also included interactive sessions and workshops aimed at facilitating a smooth transition for the students into their new academic environment. The activities were centred around leadership & self-development, which included team building activities, and self-assessments using the Myers Briggs Type Indicator framework.





From Selfie challenges around the university's campus to ice breakers on CityU Trivia. The students were engaged in pitching to a guest Judge, their ideas on solutions to a Public Health Crisis.

Leadership skills and team dynamics form an integral part of every student's journey at CityU and we believe in holistic development including non-technical skills such as communication, team work, resilience, leadership, to name a few. These activities paved the perfect Segway for personality types and preferences which was further explored on day 2 with a very interactive MBTI workshop. Each student was given a detailed report on type dynamics, conflict resolution, negotiation and character building, based on a self-assessment done earlier.



The 2-day session ended on a good note with high spirits. The orientation was extremely effective in creating synergy and building camaraderie amongst students, and a fantastic introduction to CityU and the MSc course.



### Research (included new awards, new publications, new **successful** external grants, etc.)

- Presented a paper at the joint annual meeting of the World Association for Animal Production and the European Federation of Animal Science in Lyon, France. **Á. Kenéz**, E. Jorge-Smeding, Y.H. Leung, A. Ruíz-González, D. E. Rico: Effects of Met, Lys and His supplementation on the metabolic response to heat stress in dairy cows
- Mao, A., Zhu, M., Huang, E., Yao, X., **Liu, K.\*** (2023). A teacher-to-student information recovery method towards energy-efficient animal activity recognition with low sampling rates. *Computers and Electronics in Agriculture* (accepted)
- Mahrous, Sara H., Farouk A. El-Balkemy, Naser Z. Abo-Zeid, Mamdouh F. El-Mekkawy, Hend M. El Damaty, and **Ibrahim Elsohaby**. 2023. "Antibacterial and Anti-Biofilm Activities of Cinnamon Oil against Multidrug-Resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* Isolated from Pneumonic Sheep and Goats" *Pathogens* 12, no. 9: 1138. <https://doi.org/10.3390/pathogens12091138>



## Service, events, conference, and symposium

- On Sep 05, 2023, **Prof. Alan McElligott** attended a meeting of the International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE), Equality, Diversity, Inclusivity and Accessibility (EDIA) committee. [https://www.applied-ethology.org/Committees\\_and\\_Experts.html](https://www.applied-ethology.org/Committees_and_Experts.html)

## Visit

Prof. Surya Paudel visited the headquarter of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), United Nations in Vienna, Austria on 28th August 2023, and possible future collaborations were discussed. Among various other activities, IAEA has been working on developing and adopting nuclear-based technologies for optimizing animal health and production.

Prof. Surya Paudel participated in the World Veterinary Poultry Association Conference, 4-8th September 2023, Verona, Italy. The following papers were orally presented.

1. **Surya Paudel**, Claudia Hess, Mohamed Kamal Abdelhamid, Manolis Lyrakis, Viskam Wijewardana, Richard Thiga Kangethe, Giovanni Cattoli, Michael Hess. Efficacy of aerosol delivered irradiated *Escherichia coli* to elicit broad protection against colibacillosis in chickens: *Presenting author: S. Paudel.*
2. Sina Bagheri, Taniya Mitra, **Surya Paudel**, Kamal Abdelhamid, Simon Könnyü, Viskam Wijewardana, Richard Thiga Kangethe, Giovanni Cattoli, Manolis Lyrakis, Claudia Hess, Michael Hess, Dieter Liebhart. Cytokine gene expression and phenotyping of immune cells indicate a local immunostimulatory effect in pullets following aerosol vaccination with irradiated avian pathogenic *Escherichia coli*. (*Oral presentation*)
3. Mohamed Kamal Abdelhamid, **Surya Paudel**, Hammad-ur-Rehman, Claudia Hess, Michael Hess. Experimental colibacillosis in laying hens and bacterial transmission into eggs monitored with lux-tagged *E. coli*. (*Oral presentation*)
4. Ilias Apostolakos\*, **Surya Paudel**\*, Giuditta Tilli, Ronald Vougat ngom, Helena C. de Carvalho Ferreira, Alessandra Piccirillo. Efficacy of vaccines to prevent or control colibacillosis in the broiler production: a systematic review and meta-analysis. (\* equally contributing authors). (*Oral presentation*)  
Giuditta Tilli, Ronald Vougat Ngom, Ilias Apostolakos, **Surya Paudel**, Helena C. de Carvalho Ferreira, Alessandra Piccirillo. Efficacy of biosecurity measures to prevent or control colibacillosis in broiler production: a systematic review. (*Oral presentation*)

**Prof. Surya Paudel** participated in the meeting of working group 4 (Developing antimicrobial treatment guidelines for colibacillosis in poultry) on 11th September 2023 at the University of Padova, Padova, Italy. The work is being carried out within the European Network for Optimization of Veterinary Antimicrobial Treatment (ENOVAT) programme, supported by the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST).



## Research Grants

Notable grants application deadlines upcoming:

1. [Guangdong Basic and Applied Basic Research Joint Fund Program \(Public Health and Pharmaceutical & Healthcare Areas\)](#)

[广东省基础与应用基础研究基金企业联合基金（公共卫生与医药健康领域）项目](#)

Deadline: 18 September 2023

2. [RGC Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme \(PDFS\)](#)



Deadline: 25 September 2023

3. [General Research Fund \(GRF\) and Early Career Schemes \(ECS\)](#)

Deadline: 16 October 2023

4. [ITF - Platform Research Projects and Seed Projects of Innovation and Technology Support Programme \(ITSP\)](#)

Deadline: 16 October 2023

5. [Jockey Club Global STEM Post-doctoral Fellowship for Translational Research and Application](#)

Deadline: 2 November 2023

6. [Professional Services Advancement Support Scheme \(PASS\)](#)

Deadline: 17 November 2023

*For more information on Research Grants*

[Research Grants and Contracts Office](#)

## ***Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)***

### **Upcoming DEI Events**

Click on the events tab on our DEI website for the full list of events

<https://www.cityu.edu.hk/jcc/about-us/diversity-equity-and-inclusion>

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