

Dear JCC Community,

This week we celebrated the great news of our award of dual accreditation of the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine program by the RCVS and AVBC with a press conference that was attended by many in the College, and received global news coverage. The award of 7 years of accreditation by the RCVS is almost unheard of for a new school and is testament to our meticulous preparation efforts and effective teamwork.



When I have congratulated and thanked various people I have bumped into this week, many of them have said “but my contribution was only very small compared to others”. In fact, it was the multiple small contributions of so many people that made our achievement possible, not just our amazing staff and students, but people from every office in the University from painters in the Campus Development Office to number crunchers in the Finance Office. You can read the speech I gave at the press conference to acknowledge and thank all of our steadfast supporters within and external to the College ([link](#)).

We will celebrate our accreditation success in two upcoming events – the special Graduation Gala on October 28th, where we will be honoured to host Dean Lorin Warnick and Professor Caroline Yancey from our partner Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine to join us in fare-welling our first BVM cohort. We'll also have a staff celebration on October 27th – details to follow.

It's been a whirlwind of a week, with no breath drawn after the press conference and straight into the JCC Review of Excellence, where we underwent yet another round of quality assurance. Although the timing wasn't great, the panel recommended many actions that are in fact in our strategic plan, thus reassuring us that our planned trajectory will optimise our success.

With the accreditation behind us, we now have the perfect opportunity for exponential growth as a College, to capitalise on our different strengths and to demonstrate that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts.

We will focus on enhancing opportunities for multidisciplinary research within the College and University, via informal and formal meetings, in the months to come. Having a space to meet (staff common room) is essential – it's the informal

networking that often leads to strong collaborations. It's been some time since I requested space for our common room and I hope that good news will be forthcoming soon.

Kind regards



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



Prof. Vanessa BARRS
BVSc(hons) PhD MVetClinStud GradCertEd
(Higher Ed)
FANZCVS (Feline Medicine)

5/F, Block 1, To Yuen Building
31 To Yuen Street
Kowloon, Hong Kong

**Dean, Jockey Club College of Veterinary
Medicine and Life Sciences**
BOCHK Chair Professor of Veterinary
Medicine
Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences
City University of Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 3442 8825

Fax: (852) 3442 0589

Website:
<https://www.cityu.edu.hk/vcs/staff/prof-vanessa-barrs.htm>

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

News From Our Departments

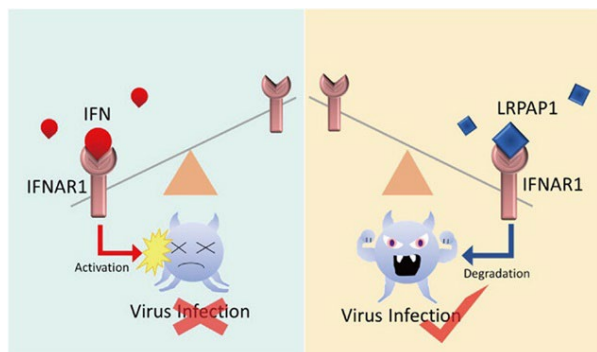
Biomedical Sciences

Events

- The Departments of Biomedical Sciences (BMS) and Biomedical Engineering (BME) joined forces on 23 September 2023, to co-organize a highly anticipated joint **“Symposium on Innovation in Biomedicine and Bioengineering”**. A total of 16 faculty members from both departments delivered insightful talks, covering a diverse array of topics at the forefront of their respective fields. The event witnessed active participation from staff and students, creating an environment conducive to collaboration and knowledge exchange, it also served as a catalyst for future collaborations among faculty members, researchers, and students, fostering an environment that encourages multidisciplinary learning, research and projects.



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



Prof He Mingliang (BMS) and his research team published a paper entitled as titled “Secreted LRPAP1 binds and triggers IFNAR1 degradation to facilitate virus evasion from cellular innate immunity”, was published in the scientific journal ***Signal Transduction and Targeted Therapy*** (Journal Impact Factor: 39.3)

Link: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41392-023-01630-1>

Veterinary Clinical Sciences

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



Professor Angel Almendros and research assistants from the **Barrs-Beatty lab, Dr. Jacqueline Tam and Ms. Yan Ru Choi** presented abstracts at the International Society of Companion Animal Diseases (ISCAID) stream of the ESVIM-CA congress in Barcelona on research about feline babesiosis and *Leptospira* seroprevalence and urinary shedding in Hong Kong cats and dogs. The team took home **1st prize** in the poster abstracts and **2nd prize** in the oral abstracts.

Service

- **Professors Vanessa Barrs and Stefan Hobi** visited a local secondary school on September 13th, 2023 to introduce the College and the admission to the BVM Programme. **Professors May Tse, Colin McDermott, Eloi Guarnieri** were also invited to join and deliver a career talk to the students. The event was a great success and attended by almost 300 participants.



Upcoming Webinars

- You are welcome to join the upcoming webinars by the VCS and CAHW in October 2023:

(JCC-VCS Research Seminar)

[OneHealth; from population to landscape](#)

by Dr Alice C. Hughes

Oct 4, 2023 (Thu), 1-2pm (HKT)

(CAHW Animal Health and Welfare Webinar)

[Interventional Radiology Procedures in Veterinary](#)

[Patients: When, Why, If](#)

by Dr Josh Steinhaus

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

JCC-VCS Research Seminar

OneHealth; from population to landscape

Oct 4, 2023 (Wed)
1-2 pm HKT on Zoom

Scan for free registration

Guest Speaker:
Dr. Alice C. Hughes
University of Hong Kong

In recent years the importance of OneHealth approaches have begun to be noted. However, whilst OneHealth in the context of captive wildlife and trade, and to some degree various domesticated animals has begun to be noted, understanding OneHealth from a landscape structure and management context is largely limited to case-specific examples and case-studies. Here we review not only the importance of OneHealth from a landscape context, but the importance of including ecophysiological and ecological considerations of into our understanding of species health in the landscape context.

Using bats as a case-study we briefly review the various dimensions of OneHealth that need to be considered at a population level, the importance of species demography and habitat health in determining the risk of pathogen exposure, vulnerability and shedding, and how these relate to landscape structure.

Using bats, predominantly in Asia as a casestudy we review our own work in the region, the intersectional research needs on bat taxonomy and systematics, as well as demographic and ecophysiological research needs. Following from this we highlight current knowledge gaps, and future areas for research, as well as basic precautions for landscape management including agriculture, mining, forest management and recreation, and how seasonal considerations due to both resource availability and other ecological stressors are key to minimising the risk of spillover events going into the future.

Enquiry: vcs@cityu.edu.hk

Centre for Animal Health and Welfare

Animal Health & Welfare Seminar

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

When to intervene in sick patients is a complex and sensitive issue. There are a number of considerations including available treatments, available evidence-based rationale, owners desires and ethical issues (autonomy, beneficence, and non-maleficence). The goal of this talk is to discuss the role of interventional radiology in these cases and how to balance these considerations.

Guest Speaker:
Dr Joshua Steinhaus
MS, BVMS, DACVIM, DECVM-CA
IRIS Ambassador to Hong Kong

Oct 26
2023 (Thu)
4-5pm HKT on Zoom

Free Registration

Enquiry: centre.ahw@cityu.edu.hk

Infectious Diseases and Public Health

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

- **Akos Kenez** attended the 21st Annual Meeting of the Asian Association of Veterinary Schools (AAVS) in Sopporo, Japan and presented the findings of the latest BVM PBL education research project which was funded by CityU TED: Ákos Kenéz, Brett MacKinnon, Francesca Rizzo, Peter J Schiff, Manuel Vizcaino Serrano, Cheuk Ming Li, Rebecca SV Parkes: Effects of a digitally enhanced class environment on students' learning experience in problem-based learning. He also became a member of the AAVS Veterinary Education Research Working Group.
- Online blog from our student **Ariel WONG**, BVM Year 3, about her water buffalo field research, July and August.

Investigating the Lantau Island Water Buffaloes: An Unforgettable Fieldwork Experience

<https://www.hkbuffaloresearch.org/posts/investigating-the-lantau-island-water-buffaloes-an-unforgettable-fieldwork-experience>

Research Grants

Notable grants application deadlines upcoming:

1. [General Research Fund \(GRF\) and Early Career Schemes \(ECS\)](#)
Deadline: 16 October 2023
2. [ITF - Platform Research Projects and Seed Projects of Innovation and Technology Support Programme \(ITSP\)](#)
Deadline: 16 October 2023
3. [RGC Research Fellow Scheme \(RFS\) and RGC Senior Research Fellow Scheme \(SRFS\)](#)
Deadline: 30 October 2023
4. [Jockey Club Global STEM Post-doctoral Fellowship for Translational Research and Application](#)
Deadline: 2 November 2023
5. [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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