



APIAM VET STUDENT NEWS

Edition 5: August 2019

FROM YOUR EDITOR...

August and September are busy months for us as we start to arrange clinical placements requests for next year as well as meeting with many soon-to-graduate veterinarians to discuss job opportunities. We are currently recruiting for new graduates in several mixed practice positions. Please contact me to find out more or submit your expression of interest to leisa.denaro@apiam.com.au

I will be attending Adelaide Uni's Careers Week from 13-15th August along with Warrnambool vet Dr Sarah Ballantyne who will host a practical workshop and participate in the Q&A panels. If you get a chance, please come and meet us at the trade fair.

In this edition we hear from Dr Danielle Kerr from Quirindi Veterinary Clinic. Danielle tells us about her whirlwind first 6 months in practice and what she has learned along the way.



NEW GRADUATE PROGRAM KICKSTART YOUR VETERINARY CAREER

The Apiam family recognises that the transition to practice can be a challenging time for graduates. Our structured New Graduate Program identifies the key areas of professional development from a clinical and pastoral perspective to ensure that our graduates feel supported whilst being given the freedom to learn.

PROGRAM FORMAT:

- 24 month program, suitable for newly or recently qualified veterinarians.
- On-line and face-to-face training incorporating emotional intelligence, stress management, communication skills and leadership.
- An individually assigned Mentor to oversee clinical and non-clinical development.
- Recording and monitoring of clinical skills to allow goals to be set and achieved.
- Practical and targeted Continuing Education workshops to allow graduates to fast-track in valuable clinical skills across a range of species.

We are looking for motivated and conscientious new graduates to work with us in our clinics.

Please visit www.apiam.com.au/newgraduateprogram for more information.

APIAM GRADUATE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Apiam provides a supportive environment for new and recent graduate veterinarians, with friendly teams of experienced vets and nursing staff in each of our clinics. We recognise that the transition to practice can be a challenging time for new graduates. Our structured program identifies the key areas of professional development from both a clinical and pastoral perspective to ensure that graduates feel supported whilst being given the freedom to learn.

Key Objectives

- To support graduates in starting their professional employment within an Apiam practice
- To enable graduates to work efficiently and safely
- To ensure graduates feel and show confidence and competence in clinical skills across a range of species
- To introduce graduates to Apiam's culture and values
- To ensure graduates are valuable and integrated team members and part of the Apiam peer support network



IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

3 August 2019

UQ Rural Practitioners Day, Gatton Campus
Apiam vet Dr Justin Schooth from Gympie Vet Services will be there instructing and giving valuable practical tips.

13 – 15 August 2019

University of Adelaide Vet & Ag Industry Week, Roseworthy Campus

Apiam Vet Dr Sarah Ballantyne will host a workshop on Tuesday evening. Come and meet us at the Trade Fair and at the Industry Q&A panels

17 August 2019

Rural Practitioners Day, University of Adelaide

Learn about Bull Breeding Soundness with Dr Sarah Ballantyne

21 August 2019

University of Melbourne Vet & Ag Careers Night, Werribee Campus

The team from People & Culture will be there with info about the Apiam Graduate Development Program

28 September 2019

CSU Halfway Festival

Apiam will be at the rugby match to present the trophy and we will attend the dinner.

6 December 2019

Murdoch DVM Conference

Apiam is a sponsor and we look forward to meeting you at the trade display

Have an event you would like listed here?

Email details to vetstudents@apiam.com.au

My First 6 Months – a whirlwind of new experiences and opportunities! I asked Apiam vet Dr Danielle Kerr from Quirindi Veterinary Clinic to tell us about her first six months in practice...

I graduated from James Cook University in 2018 and applied for a job at an Apiam's Quirindi Veterinary Clinic in NSW, which after a surprisingly stress-free interview and a trip down to meet the team I was offered the job. The move from Townsville to Quirindi was a long and stressful one, but the lovely staff at QVC helped me settle in to my new place. Before starting at QVC I remember thinking "finally all the late sleepless nights of hard work and study are over, right"? WRONG! Vet school was a breeze compared to working at a clinic.

The first 6 months at Quirindi were a whirlwind of new experiences and opportunities, that allowed me to further my skills and knowledge in a multitude of areas. From how best to diagnose different diseases to the best way to jab a cat without getting bitten; to how to hold a straight face when telling an owner that their bitey and scratchy dog was "such a sweet little angel". There were lots of sleepless nights, exhausting days and times where I thought that the stress would overcome me. But the fantastic nurses and staff at the clinic were always there to help me through. Also helping to make the transition smooth was the Apiam New Graduate Program. The modules taught me how to manage my work life balance, understanding emotional intelligence and other helpful aspects of working as a Veterinarian. The Apiam New Graduate Program also gave me and other new grads the opportunity to do workshops and advance skills, such as an Equine Dental workshop where we got a chance to learn and practice our skills on horses of a range of sizes.



As a student I was always eager for an afterhours call to come in because that's when all the cool stuff happens! As a Veterinarian I dread hearing the phone ring late at night because you know its going to be hard, tiring and emotionally exhausting. Some handy tips I've learnt along the way are always to keep your car fully stocked, because a farmer's favourite phrase is "while you're here can you...". Have baby wipes and hand sanitizer in the car, because large animal bodily fluids always end up on your face! From experience, do not crash the work car, it will be brought up at least once a week for the rest of your career. And always keep your mouth closed when bull testing and pregnancy testing cows!

My parting advice is to trust yourself, even in the most complex of cases. Remember that you have the knowledge and skills to help the patient, just trust yourself to use it! But always have another vet on speed dial just in case!

I thank Apiam and the fantastic team at Quirindi Veterinary Clinic for the best first six months of practice a new graduate Veterinarian could ask for.



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Global knowledge.