

FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND INDUCTION CEREMONY OF FIFTH PRESIDENT

VETERINARY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF PERADENIYA

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Institute of Continuing Education, Department of Animal Production and Health, Gannoruwa 23rd March 2024







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FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND INDUCTION CEREMONY OF FIFTH PRESIDENT

Of

Veterinary Alumni Association of Peradeniya (VAAP)

Institute of Continuing Education, Department of Animal Production and Health, Gannoruwa

23rd March 2024

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Fourth Executive Committee of the Veterinary Alumni Association of Peradeniya (2023-2024)

Prof. Anil Pushpakumara	Patron
Dr. Niranjala de Silva	President
Dr. Suneth Disnaka	President- Elect
Prof. Mangala Gunatilake	Vice-president/ President of the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons
Dr. Susantha Mallawarachchi	Vice-president
Dr. Eranga De Seram	General Secretary
Dr. Chandrindu Abeykoon	Assistant General Secretary
Dr. Bimalka Ranasinghe	Treasurer
Dr. Dhanushka Hewapathirana	Assistant Treasurer
Prof. R.M.C. Deshapriya	Committee member
Dr. Ajith Liyanagamage	Committee member
Dr. Niromi Jayasekera	Committee member
Dr. Thilini Anupama	Committee member
Dr. Rasika Kumarasinghe	Committee member
Dr. Ushanthi Ramanayake	Committee member
Prof. Ayona Silva-Fletcher	Committee member
Dr. Kalhari Gunawardhane	Committee member
Dr. Raj Packianathan	Committee member
Dr. Nimal Jayaweera	Immediate Past President/ President of the Veterinary council of Sri Lanka
Dr. Suranji Wijekoon	Immediate Past Secretary
Dr. Bhagya Wickramasooriya	Immediate Past Treasurer
Dr. Hemali Kothalawala	Director General of the Department of Animal Production and Health
Dr. Mohamed Ijas	President of the Sri Lanka Veterinary Association

Honorary Advisers: Dr. R.M.P.H. Dassanayake, Dr. Neil Horadagoda, Dr. Madura Munasinghe

AGENDA

Session I: Annual General Meeting

09.00 - 09.30	Registration
09.30 - 09.35	Welcome by the President
09.35 - 09.50	Minutes of the 3 rd AGM, Adoption and Matters Arising
09.50 - 10.05	Presentation of the Secretary's Report
10.05 - 10.20	Presentation and Approval of the Treasurer's Report
10.20 - 10.35	Election of the 5 th Executive Committee
10.35 - 10.45	Any other matters
10.45 - 11.00	Tea Break

Session II: Induction Ceremony

11.00 - 11.05	Arrival of the Chief Guest, Guest of Honour, and Special Invitee
11.05 - 11.15	Lighting of the Oil Lamp and National Anthem
11.15 - 11.25	Welcome Address by the President - Dr. Niranjala de Silva
11.25 - 11.35	Address by the Chief Guest - Dr. H.P. Premasiri, General Manager, Pussalla Meat
	Producers (Pvt) Ltd
11.35 - 11.55	Keynote Address by the Guest of Honour - Prof. Ananda Jayasinghe, former
	President of PeMSAA and former Professor in Community Medicine, University of
	Peradeniya
11.55 - 12.05	Address by the President of the Alumni Association of the University of Peradeniya
	- Prof. Rupika Rajakaruna
12.05 - 12.20	Induction of the 5 th President
12.20 - 12.35	Address by the 5 th President - Dr. Suneth Disnaka
12.35 - 12.45	Vote of Thanks by the General Secretary - Dr. Eranga De Seram
12.45 onwards	Fellowship and Lunch

Message from the President

It is with a great sense of achievement that I convey this message as the 4th President of the Veterinary Alumni Association of Peradeniya (VAAP) on the occasion of the 4th Annual General Meeting and the Induction Ceremony of the 5th President. I extend a warm welcome to our Chief Guest, Dr. H.P. Premasiri, General Manager of Pussalla Meat Producers (Pvt) Ltd., and the Guest of Honour, former Professor Ananda Jayasinghe of the Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, who was former President of Peradeniya Medical School Alumni Association (PeMSAA). Also, a special welcome to Professor Rupika Rajakaruna, President of the Alumni Association of



the University of Peradeniya, and Senior Professor and Chair of the Department of Zoology, Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya, along with members of the Executive Committee and our colleagues.

As many of our colleagues are aware, VAAP is still in its infancy, having been inaugurated in 2019 under the patronage of Dr. Madura Munasinghe, the Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science at the time, and under the presidency of Dr. R.M.P.H. Dassanayake. Subsequently, both senior and junior members of the alumni, under the leadership of Dr. Oswin Perera and Dr. Nimal Jayaweera, with their respective Executive Committees have tirelessly worked towards achieving the objectives of VAAP, with the invaluable cooperation of the Patron Prof. Anil Pushpakumara, the present Dean. It is noteworthy to mention that the establishment of three overseas Chapters of VAAP, namely the Oceania Chapter, UK-EU Chapter, and North American (NA) Chapter over the past three years has significantly contributed to the financial, academic, and professional advancements of the faculty.

During the tenure of the 4th Executive Committee, the Oceania Chapter of VAAP generously provided nine studentships, the UK-EU Chapter offered five, individual alumni in Australia contributed three, and the NA Chapter, along with the Dean of Calgary University through a UK alumnus, each granted two more. Additionally, Batch 72 also contributed another studentship and VAAP itself pledged funds for four more studentships during this period. To support the faculty's capacity building, a UK alumnus generously donated a video endoscope, a rigid endoscope with accessories, and orthopaedic surgical equipment, and Batch 72 donated a Benchtop centrifuge to the Companion Animal Teaching Hospital. The UK-EU Chapter pledged funds to supplement the expenses incurred in manufacturing an equine operating table for the Farm Animal Veterinary Teaching Hospital of the faculty. In addition, demonstrating their commitment to the *alma mater*, two members from the Oceania Chapter generously provided funds for the complete repair of the faculty bus.

The Oceania Chapter alumni conducted three webinars on veterinary-related topics during this period for the benefit of undergraduates, veterinary practitioners and academics in related sectors. Furthermore, some alumni in the NA Chapter continued delivering lectures to undergraduates on selected topics, while two alumni of the UK Chapter and an alumnus of the Oceania Chapter conducted seminars and demonstrated medical and surgical procedures for undergraduates and junior clinicians. Another significant milestone achieved during our tenure was the establishment of a Moodle platform as a subdomain on the website of the Sri Lanka

College of Veterinary Surgeons, utilizing funds raised independently by a UK alumnus on behalf of VAAP. This platform will exclusively facilitate continuing education programmes for the veterinary and allied communities both locally and internationally.

These accomplishments highlight the collective efforts of the VAAP community in supporting educational initiatives and enriching the resources available to the faculty. I am happy that the VAAP was able to foster a global network, allowing our alumni worldwide to remain connected and share experiences for the betterment of the veterinary profession at large. I urge all past graduates of the faculty to join VAAP and contribute to its future endeavours. In conclusion, on behalf of the 4th Executive Committee, I extend my best wishes to the 5th Executive Committee led by the new President, Dr. Suneth Disnaka for a productive tenure in keeping with the objectives of VAAP.

Dr. D. D. Niranjala de Silva, *BVSc, PhD, FSLCVS* President of the 4th Executive Committee

Message from the Patron

Dear Esteemed Members of the Veterinary Alumni Association of Peradeniya. I am delighted to extend this message to you in anticipation of the 4th Annual General Meeting of VAAP, scheduled to take place on 23rd March 2024. As the sole faculty dedicated to veterinary education in Sri Lanka, our alumni hold a special bond with our alma mater, which has been fostered since its inception.

The establishment of VAAP has formalized and strengthened this bond, and I am pleased to report that our association has made significant strides in a short period. Notably, VAAP has successfully



established several overseas chapters, underscoring its progressive momentum with members joining from both local and foreign locales.

Under the capable leadership of Dr. Niranjala de Silva, our current team has achieved commendable success in engaging with local and international alumni. Through their efforts, VAAP has provided vital financial assistance to prospective members, inspiring them to assume diverse roles within the field of veterinary science. Furthermore, the unwavering support of foreign alumni serving in academic and practitioner capacities has been instrumental in enhancing our academic programs and improving facilities at our faculty for the benefit of all students.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Niranjala and the 4th Executive Committee for their unwavering support in elevating VAAP to a level of pride for us all. It is important to acknowledge that the establishment of VAAP was made possible through the collective efforts of senior colleagues dedicated to advancing veterinary education and the profession in Sri Lanka. Their ongoing support is invaluable, and I sincerely hope it continues for years to come.

As we look forward to the future, I extend my congratulations to Dr. Suneth Disnaka who will be sworn in as the new president today, along with his Executive Committee. I pledge my full support as the patron to assist them in achieving remarkable milestones during their tenure.

I eagerly anticipate your presence at the 4th Annual General Meeting, where we can celebrate our achievements and plan the course for an even brighter future for VAAP.

Warm regards,

Prof Anil Pushpakumara, *BVSc, PhD, FSLCVS* Patron of VAAP/ Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya.

Message from the Guest of Honour

I am indeed delighted to send a message of greetings on the occasion of the 5th Presidential Induction Ceremony of the Veterinary Alumni Association of Peradeniya.

Reflecting on my time in our faculty when all three fields — Medical, Veterinary and Dental Sciences stood together, this event holds a special significance for me, and I am reminded of the interconnectedness of our fields. This interconnectedness is encapsulated in the concept of One Health, which emphasizes the inseparable link between the health of animals, humans, and the environment.



The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science at Peradeniya enjoys a unique and privileged status within the university system of Sri Lanka as the sole Veterinary Faculty in the country. This distinctive status also extends to the Veterinary Alumni Association of Peradeniya (VAAP), rendering it equally unique.

I believe all the members of the VAAP find this occasion a suitable platform for fellowship providing them with a well-deserved respite from their busy schedules.

We must be appreciative of the President and the Council members for their great commitment in organizing this event under the challenging and undesirable conditions prevailing in our country.

I consider it an honour bestowed upon me to have been invited as the Guest of Honour on this important occasion. I sincerely wish the Veterinary Alumni Association of Peradeniya a fruitful journey in the future.

Dr. Ananda Jayasinghe, *MBBS*, *DCH(Lond)*, *MSc (Lond)*, *FRCP (Glasgow)*, *FRCP (Lond)* Former Professor in Community Medicine, University of Peradeniya Past President of the Peradeniya Medical School Alumni Association (PeMSAA)

Message from the Chief Guest

It is with great pleasure that I issue this message for publication in the souvenir of the 4th Annual General Meeting and Induction Ceremony of the 5th President of the Veterinary Alumni Association of Peradeniya University (VAAP).

I express my heartfelt gratitude to the President and Executive Committee of VAAP for honouring me with the role of Chief Guest at the Induction Ceremony of the 5th President of VAAP. As representatives of the largest university in the country and graduates of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science exclusively produced by Peradeniya University, we bear a significant responsibility.



During this significant event, I would like to emphasize two crucial points:

1. Feeding the Growing Population:

The global population is projected to surpass nine billion by 2050, requiring a 70% increase in food production to meet demand. Animal-origin proteins, including meat, eggs, milk, and fish, boast the highest biological value with all essential amino acids. Given that over 60% of children in Sri Lanka suffer from malnutrition and a shortage of animal-origin protein persists, veterinarians bear a substantial social responsibility. We must focus on producing high-quality and affordable animal-origin proteins in the country, accompanied by public awareness programs to dispel misconceptions prevalent in Sri Lanka society.

2. Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR):

Antimicrobial resistance leads to millions of deaths worldwide annually. In 2019 alone, six million people succumbed to AMR, second only to the death toll of diseases such as ischemic heart disease (8 million) and stroke (6.2 million). Sri Lanka, too, faces vulnerability to AMR without timely remedial action.

Dear Veterinary colleagues, we are entrusted with a profound responsibility and a monumental task to address these pressing issues for the benefit of our society and the global community at large. Let us unite in our efforts to overcome these challenges and contribute to a healthier and more sustainable future.

Dr. H. P. Premasiri, *BVSc (Cey), MSc (SL), FSLCVS* General Manager Pussalla Meat Producers (Pvt) Ltd.

Message from the President of the Alumni Association of the University of Peradeniya

Greetings everyone!

Since its inception in 1987, the Alumni Association of the University of Peradeniya (AAUP) has played a role in encouraging, fostering, and promoting close relations between the University and its alumni. As we reflect on the activities of the AAUP over the past three decades and ponder about the future, we realize that we are now a big family of four local chapters, seven overseas chapters, eight faculty associations and the recently established Pera Alumni Sports Club.



The Covid-19 pandemic was a blessing in disguise as Zoom Ex-Co meetings and the hybrid meetings that followed brought us closer to our overseas chapters and local chapters as well as faculty associations. Closer cooperation and a better understanding of student problems among alumni led to significant benefits to students, the establishment of CaPSU to help students in distress, several more studentships to help students in need and help raise awareness on cyber sexual harassment, a silent predator devastating student life.

The alumni, their generous donations and projects to raise funds helped us to conduct these activities. The millions of rupees we receive each year for student welfare activities is testimony to our accountability and transparency demonstrated in banking, handling and disbursing funds received from alumni and well wishes. Their confidence in us is our greatest strength and commitment.

Under my Presidency this year, I have pledged to revisit two university development projects, the renovation of the greenroom of Sarachchandra Open–Air Theatre or 'Wala', and the Art Gallery and Museum project. This Art Gallery and Museum project was initiated in 2004 to house a collection of over 145 paintings and sketches by George Keyt and many other renowned artists, gifted by Ian and Roselyn Goonetileke. The alumni at the time donated a significant amount of money to the University to establish an art gallery, but unfortunately, even after 20 years, the progress has been slow. However, we launched a fundraiser for the "Wala" project and hope to complete it within the next couple of years. I invite all those graduates who walked through the portals of this great seat of learning to pledge your loyalty, support, and allegiance to the alma mater by becoming an active member of the AAUP.

I appreciate the connection and contributions from the VAAP; let's preserve a mutually beneficial, enduring relationship among all faculty associations and the AAUP.

Prof. Rupika Rajakaruna President/AAUP

General Secretary's Report

As the General Secretary of the Veterinary Alumni Association of Peradeniya (VAAP), I am honoured to present the Secretary's report for the past year, overseen by the 4th Executive Committee (Ex-Co), at this 4th Annual General Meeting (AGM). Before we look into the past year's highlights, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated members of the 4th Ex-co and our Overseas Chapter Coordinators. Their hard work has been instrumental in advancing VAAP's goals and strengthening our community bonds. As we



prepare to transition leadership, I extend my best wishes to the incoming Executive Committee. I am confident in their ability to carry forward VAAP's mission with enthusiasm and dedication. Let's feel proud of what we've achieved so far and stay hopeful as we move forward. We should be excited about the chances waiting for us in the future.

<u>3rd Annual General Meeting and the Induction Ceremony of the 4th President</u>

The third AGM that appointed the 4th Ex-co of VAAP and the Induction Ceremony of the 4th President of the VAAP took place on March 18, 2023, at the Institute of Continuing Education of the Department of Animal Production and Health. The event was conducted in a hybrid format, with significant participation from both local and overseas members. Prof. M. D. Lamawansa, the Vice Chancellor, and Prof. T. Madujith, the Deputy Vice Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya, graced the occasion with their presence. Additionally, we were honoured by the attendance of Prof. Pradeepa Bandaranayake, the President of the Alumni Association of the University of Peradeniya, and Prof. Dileep De Silva, Chair Professor of Community Dentistry. Dr. Niranjala de Silva was inducted as the 4th President of VAAP. Her dedication and vision for the association promise to guide VAAP to new heights, fostering greater unity among the alumni and advancing the field of veterinary science.



Here are some memorable captures from the induction ceremony of the 4th VAAP President.

Committee meetings

The 4th Ex-Co held regular meetings every two months. To facilitate the frequent participation of overseas chapter coordinators, the meetings were conducted virtually. Overseas chapter activities and studentships were the primary focus of all meetings, with the treasurer providing reports on the association's financial activities. Additionally, several special Ex-co meetings were convened, primarily to prepare for the 4th AGM.

<u>Studentships</u>

At VAAP, we are dedicated to helping talented veterinary students achieve their goals, which is a core part of what we stand for. Providing financial assistance to deserving candidates in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science is not just important; it's our primary goal.

To ensure that our assistance reaches those in greatest need, we carefully screened applicants. Once identified, students received monthly financial support for one year, helping alleviate their financial burdens and enabling them to focus on their studies and future in veterinary medicine.

In 2023, our dedication to these studentships was stronger than ever. We are proud to announce that each supported student received a total of LKR 60,000.00 per year. This significant financial support could have been vital for our aspiring veterinarians, helping them with their studies and starting a successful career.

The treasurer's report will provide detailed information about the breakdown of the studentships.

Overseas chapter activities

In the past year, our Overseas Chapter activities demonstrated remarkable generosity and dedication to advancing veterinary education. Professor Ayona Silva-Fletcher's completion of the London Marathon on April 23, 2023, raised an impressive 1400 GBP for the VAAP Studentship Fund, showcasing our community's compassionate spirit. The UK-EU chapter also secured funds to support the upgrading of the new equine surgery table in the Farm Animal Veterinary Teaching Hospital of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science.

Furthermore, Dr. Logeswaran, a member of VAAP UK-EU, generously donated a video endoscopy machine, a rigid endoscopy machine, and a variety of orthopaedic surgical instruments to the Companion Animal Veterinary Teaching Hospital at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science. Additionally, Vet Batch 72, comprising both local and overseas alumni, donated a Benchtop centrifuge to the Companion Animal Teaching Hospital. These contributions significantly enhanced the hospital's capabilities and provided valuable training opportunities for clinicians and students. Furthermore, two committed members of the VAAP Oceania Chapter refurbished the old bus at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science with a generous donation of LKR 500,000.00. This

refurbishment enabled easier travel for students' field visits and academic activities, creating more chances for practical learning and collaborative research.



The bench-top centrifuge donated by the Vet 72 batch.



Dr. Logeswaran, from the VAAP UK-EU chapter, conducted a training session on how to use the video endoscopy machine that he donated.

VAAP Logo & Name Design Competition for the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons' eLearning Platform



https://lms.slvetcollege.org/login/

In April 2023, VAAP organized an exciting Logo and Name Design Competition for the eLearning platform of the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons, with VAAP's collaboration. The competition was open to all VAAP members and talented veterinary undergraduates. Our panel of judges carefully reviewed 15 impressive entries.

Ms. Nelum Maheshi Aberathne, a final-year veterinary student at the time, was the winner of the Logo Design Competition. She received a 50 USD Amazon gift voucher from the UK- EU Chapter. Ms. Aberathne has since completed her BVSc program, marking a significant achievement in her journey.

Although we didn't find the perfect name among the

entries, our selection committee came up with the creative name "Vet eHub" for our eLearning platform.

This competition showcased the talent within our community and promised a bright future for veterinary education and innovation. The Vet eHub eLearning platform is now available for interested parties to use. For more details, they can contact VAAP or the Sri Lanka College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Membership drives

In the past year, VAAP, in collaboration with our overseas chapters, has made significant efforts to expand our community through a Membership Drive initiative. We reached out to our alumni personally and through various social media groups to spread awareness and encourage participation.

As a result of these efforts, we are pleased to report that we welcomed 18 new members to the VAAP community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to these new members for their applications and their willingness to join hands with us as we walk together towards the success of the veterinary alumni community.

Your support and participation are invaluable to us, and we look forward to continuing to grow and strengthen our community together.

Webinars and seminars

VAAP has been actively supporting the sharing of knowledge and educational development, especially among veterinary undergraduate students, through various webinars and seminars. These efforts are geared towards offering students updated information, fostering connections with alumni, and aiding in the ongoing professional development of veterinarians. Over the past year, we have organized two webinars and a physical seminar, focusing primarily on clinical medicine and poultry production.

On June 23, 2023, Dr. Nadeeka Wawegama, a dedicated member of the Oceania Chapter, conducted a highly informative webinar on mycoplasmosis in production animals. Her presentation provided valuable insights and knowledge to the participants, and the session was well-received, greatly benefiting those in attendance.

In another event, on July 10, Dr. Raj Pakianathan conducted a seminar at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science during his visit to Sri Lanka. His seminar focused on the essential topic of clinical reasoning in veterinary medicine. The session not only engaged the students but also broadened their horizons, leaving a profound impact on their approach to veterinary practice.

Furthermore, Dr. Nilhan Fernando from the Oceania chapter successfully conducted a virtual seminar on February 25, 2024, focusing on "Current Trends in Poultry Breeding." This seminar captured a wide audience, including veterinary students, professionals, and agriculture experts interested in poultry production.

The 4th Ex-Co extend its heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Nadeeka Wawegama, Dr. Raj Pakianathan, and Dr. Nilhan Fernando for their commitment to advancing veterinary education.



2023/2024 VAAP Webinar/ Seminar flyers

VAAP newsletter



The second issue of the VAAP newsletter, published in February 2024, offers a comprehensive overview of the key milestones and accomplishments of the past year. This edition provides insights into the various activities, events, and initiatives undertaken by VAAP throughout the year, showcasing the organization's dedication to its mission and goals. We are pleased to announce that the electronic version of the newsletter is now available for viewing on our website at vaap.lk. We encourage all members and interested individuals to explore the newsletter to learn more about VAAP's endeavours and achievements.

Challenges and suggestions to the new Ex-Co

Facing challenges is an inherent part of progress, and they often pave the way forward to success. Throughout the past year, the 4th Ex-Co encountered several challenges, which offer valuable insights and suggest plans for the incoming committee.

One significant challenge was registering VAAP as a non-profit company. Despite our efforts, we faced obstacles in completing the registration due to its lengthy and demanding nature. It is crucial to note that registration is now mandatory for banking purposes, especially concerning the opening or renewing of fixed deposit accounts.

Another important initiative was exploring the implementation of a payment gateway for VAAP. While discussions commenced during the latter part of the past year, they were not entirely successful in execution due to competing priorities. Establishing a payment gateway is essential for various purposes, including attracting more members and facilitating payments for the eLearning platform.

As we transition to a new committee, I encourage them to address these challenges proactively and take necessary actions to overcome them. By doing so, we can continue to advance VAAP's mission and serve our community effectively.

Dr. Eranga De Seram General secretary/ 4th Ex-Co of VAAP

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Messages from Overseas Chapters

VAAP United Kingdom & European Union Chapter

In 2023, the VAAP UK/EU chapter remained committed to aiding undergraduate students at the Peradeniya Faculty and advancing the veterinary profession. Despite a slight decline in membership due to postgraduate student departures, the focus was on fundraising for the 'needy students' fund. The chapter established a UK bank account for streamlined contributions and successfully sustained five annual student bursaries at LKR 5000/month. Plans include maintaining this support with a slightly increased monthly allowance and exploring the possibility of expanding the bursaries in 2024. Monthly standing orders replaced the annual payment method, allowing funds to gradually accumulate. Fundraising also included a member hosting a dinner, with plans for another in 2024.

The second initiative involved supporting a Continuous Professional Development (CPD) program through the Vet eHub platform. Collaboration with the SLCVS team and a competition for name and logo resulted in the launch of Vet eHub, hosting CPD courses such as 'Elephant Health, Reproduction, and Management.' Discussions about a payment gateway for Vet eHub aim to establish a self-sustaining CPD program. Funds for this initiative were raised by a member participating in the London Marathon.

Furthermore, a generous member donated endoscopy systems to the Peradeniya Veterinary Faculty, enhancing diagnostic capabilities for medium to large-sized dogs. Efforts are underway to create a WhatsApp-based support network for Peradeniya veterinary graduates preparing for the MRCVS membership exam.

Looking ahead to 2024, the chapter is committed to further supporting the new large animal hospital at the Peradeniya Faculty, exploring various suggestions from members to procure necessary equipment.

UK/EU chapter core group

Ayona Silva-Fletcher, Tharangani Herath, Saman Withanage and Sam Thevasagayam

VAAP North American Chapter

During the year 2023 VAAP North American Chapter (VAAP NAC) has been mostly focused on reuniting the alumni scattered around in the USA and Canada. After a long pause, the alumni in USA and Canada joined over a Zoom meeting on February 3rd, 2024, to discuss about the activities they can conduct to support FVMAS. At the moment, the chapter has agreed to meet on a monthly basis via a Zoom call and has initiated a WhatsApp group for communication.

Looking back retrospectively at 2023, several VAAP NAC members have contributed in a number of ways to support FVMAS. Dr. Subhashini Kariyawasam had contributed to VAAP towards a student scholarship. Dr. Thomas Denagamage recruited a junior faculty member from large animal clinical department as a MSc student for veterinary preventative medicine at University of Florida. He also conducted a 2-hour lecture via Zoom on veterinary epidemiology to Animal Production and Health and Veterinary Investigation Center (VIC) veterinarians.

During the VAAP NAC Zoom reunion, we discussed about the interest in Sri Lankan veterinarians and veterinary students in obtaining a North American Veterinary License. As a result, VAAP NAC gathered some information from licensed practicing veterinarians in USA and Canada as well as the official websites to guide interested individuals. This information will be presented to VAAP and be available on VAAP website.

Dr. Kalhari Bandara Goonewardene NA chapter core group representative

Oceania chapter

On behalf of the Oceania VAAP chapter, we would like to congratulate the outgoing Executive team led by Dr. Niranjala de Silva for their outstanding contributions in supporting activities of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science during their tenure. There were three notable technical presentations delivered by the Oceania chapter members to undergraduate students in 2023-24. We are also delighted to continuously support and sponsor nine student sponsorships in 2024.

I take this opportunity to thank all the VAAP members in the Oceania chapter for their continuous support to the faculty and students.

Dr. Raj Packianathan Oceania chapter core group representative

Membership number	Name	Membership number	Name
1	S. B. Dhanapala	45	H. I. Sandanayake
2	I. D. Silva	46	T. L. K. Ediritilake
3	S. Ranawana	47	S. S. P. Silva
4	D. J. Weilgama	48	R. A. J. U. Marapana
5	B. M. A. O. Perera	49	A. A. P. Gunatilake
6	H. D. W. Piyadasa	50	P. M. J. Chandrawansa
7	D. D. Gunawardene	50	M. R. B. G. T. K. Jayasinghe
8	R. M. P. H. Dassanayake	52	J. Dharmawardene
9	N. W. K. P. Wijewantha	53	W. W. Abeygunawardene
10	T. A. C. Tiskumara	54	A. P. S. S. Abeyrathne
10	D. D. N. De Silva	55	M. W. D. C. Weerathunga
11	L. N. A. De Silva	56	G. I. S. Perera
12		57	P. G. Senevirathne
	H. B. S. Ariyarathne		
14	R. P. V. J. Rajapakshe	58	S. M. T. S. Manchanayake
15	A. Sivasothy	59	C. Semage
16	D. S. Kodikara	60	N. Pathiraja
17	H. M. T. K. Rathnayake	61	S. K. R. Amarasekara
18	K. S. C. Wanniarchchi	62	D. J. A. S. Karunanayaka
19	A. Wanigasekara	63	S. C. Molligoda
20	M. P. B. Wijayagunawardene	64	A. S. Lenagala
21	N. K. Jayasekera	65	K. A. P. A. Bandara
22	M. Gunathilake	66	D. M. L. A. Ariyarathne
23	P. G. A. Pushpakumara	67	P. A. U. De Silva
24	A. W. Kalupahana	68	K. K. Sumanasekera
25	D. M. S. Munasinghe	69	H. Harischandra
26	K. Maheswaran	70	S. S. P. Malalasekara
27	R. S. Kalupahana	71	M. D. P. Buddhika
28	R. M. C. Deshapriya	72	N. L. Perera
29	R. M. S. B. K. Ranasinghe	73	K. H. S. M. Wijesinghe
30	M. A. S. Mallawa Arachchi	74	E. K. Abeywickrama
31	K. D. S. A. Gunasekara	75	W. M. C. Wickramasinghe
32	R. A. C. Rabel	76	N. A. Y. W. Kumara
33	G. D. R. K. Perera	77	B. R. A. Abeywickrama
34	H. R. N. Jinadasa	78	R. A. M. K. Rathnayake
35	R. R. M. K. K. Wijesundera	79	D. P. H. Wijesekera
36	W. M. J. B. Wijesinghe	80	W. V. W. Suranga
37	D.A. Satharasinghe	81	A. Thaiyuba
38	H. M. H. C. Bandara	82	M. I. Sajeena
39	N. M. T. Anupama	83	M. A. Nadheer
40	W. D. D. Fernando	84	A. H. M. Hafeel
41	D. M. A. P. Dissanayake	85	G. K. N. Tharangani
			H. A. P. S. Shashimal
42 43 44	W. A. D. N. C. Wickramasinghe H. D. K. Dulanga M. D. N. Jayaweera	86 87 88	H. A. P. S. Shashimal C. Dushyanthan S. K. Weerasundara

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91	N. B. G. I. U. S. Ranasinghe	130	W. A. S. M. Premaratne
92	H. P. Premasiri	137	H. M. K. N. Bandara
93	M. Ijas	130	K. Kuleshwar Kumar
94	K. G. T. S. K. Jayawardena	140	K. S. Madusanka
95	L. A. D. E. Weerasinghe	141	R. A. A. S. K. Renapana
96	K. K. Pathirana	142	J. K. C. A. Amarasinghe
97	M. J. K. Gunasekera	143	Lingeswaran Dujiththera
98	B. H. M. D. Herath	144	L.A.D.E. Weerasinghe
99	M. G. N. Keerthi	145	G. U. Jayaweera
100	R. A. N. C. Rajapakse	146	K. G. S. K. Senarathna
100	H. M. K. N. Bandara	147	K. M. G. S. C. Kumara
101	M. R. M. Salgado	147	W. P. T. T Weerasinghe
102	W. H. M. T. C. Wijekoon	143	H. M. Jayanga Hansalee
105	N. T. Nayomi	150	G. Sangeerthana
104	W. J. R. Madushani	150	Priyantha Pallegama
105	S. H. C. K. Karunathilake	151	Thanuja Dassanayake
100	K. A. R. K. Perera	152	Sathya Nadeeshani
107	I. W. N. Ilangarathne	153	Rupika Tennekoon De Silva
108	V. H. R. P. Harischandra	155	Udaya De Silva
110	E. P. A. Priyasad	155	N. K. M. N. Priyantha
110		157	
111	W. Gamage S. Sudusinghe	158	Aruna Ambagala Thanuja Ambagala
112	K. A. L. Karunarathne	159	Janaka Kumara
113	K. A. L. Karunaratinie	139	D. M. Ravi Bandara
114	W. A. P. M. Dewasmika	160	Dissanayake
115	Y. S. A. Amarasena	161	Duminda Gamlath Welagedara
115	K. G. J. S. Disnaka	161	M. G. T. M. Prasadinie
117	S.T. Thoradeniya	163	Shanika Shashimal
117	P. E. Gunawardene	164	Sanjeewa Silva
118	G. Rahunathan	165	Sachini Herath
120	H. M. S. Wijekoon	166	Vidura Gajanayake
120	N. Priyankarage	167	K. M. Abeyrathne
121	M. Kodithuwakku	167	U. K. I. N. Ariyasinghe
122	B. C. Wickramasooriya	169	K. M. S. G. Weerasooriya
123	A. G. Liyanagamage	170	Hasanthi Abeykoon
124	L. G. S. Lokugalappatti	170	Sirimevan Gunawardana
123		171	
120	A. L. Godwin W. A. D. C. H. Wickramasinghe	172	K.Thananjayan Dilshan De Silva
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132	D. Prasadi N. De Silva	178	Neil Horadagoda
133	Chandika D. Gamage	179	R. M. Dankan Dinesh
134	Ashani Palkumbura	180	Rasika Kumarasingha

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number		number	
181		228	S. Abeysekara
182	Roshani Suriyaaratchi	229	N. Bandaranayaka
183	Dimuthu K.W. Wijesinghe	230	S. Srikumaran
184	Sampath Jeewantha Wijesinghe	231	L. Ranaweera
185	Anjana Chamal Karawita	232	C. Perera
186	Nilanthie Balachandra	233	E. Wijekoon
187	Sagara Nelum Kumara	234	M. P. A. Wijekoon
188	Thilanka Nethmini Haththotuwa	235	H. E. K. De Seram
189	Nalaka Lamahewa	236	N. Karunarathne
190	W. M. N. Kaushalya Jayathilake	237	D. P. H. Fernando
191	Thomas N. Denagamage	238	H. M. G. A. Herath
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193	Gunaretnam Iyathurai	239	H. M. S. S. S. Herath
194	Kalhari V. B. Goonewardene	240	K. G. M. P. Kumara
195	R. M. D. Hirantha Wellawa	241	A. G. P. Karunarathna
196	Ruwani Karunaratne	242	I. D. V. L. Dharmawardhane
197	Chandrindu Abeykoon	243	K. Rajapaksha
198	Iresha Wickramasinghe	244	S. Ekanayake
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200	Chandana Neelawathura	246	G. Widyaratne
201	R. L. A. I. Ranathunga	247	Inoka Hettiarachchi
202	U. D. Ramanayake	248	W. K. Vittachchi
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212	Niroshan Thanthrige	258	R. D. M. H. Madhumala
213	Nuwan Tharanga Hewagamage	259	S. H. S. Shantha
214		260	K.W.K. B. P.N.K.
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215	Ravi Gooneratne	261	D. S. Maharambe
216	Chinniah Arunagiri	262	S. R. A. B. Senanayake
217	G. U. Hettigamage	263	U. Katheeswaran
218	D. M. E. S. Dasanayaka	264	U. S. P. Mendini
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220	Palika S. J. Fernando	266	G. Kavawita
221	W. M. S. S. Wanasekara	267	B. S. S. Perera
222	P. N. C. Fernando	268	H. D. N. Y. Gunathilake
223	P. G. R. L. Bandara	269	S. A. U. M. Sinhalagoda
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225	Dhammika H. Navarathna	271	N. M. I. D. Karunadasa
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226	T. M. S. K. Piyadasa	212	W. A. S. D. Weelasooliya

Membership number	Name	Membership number	Name
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275	J. K. H. Uberathna	323	Dr. S. H. N. D. De Silva
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278	U. K. S. Alexander	521	DI. M. WI. E. DIII (KSIII
279	S. J. M. R. R. Samarakoon		
280	P. A. N. K. Wickramathilaka		
281	H. A. S. Satharasingha		
282	B. M. N. Basnayake		
283	K. R. C. K. Lasankara		
285	G. D. L. Subawickrama		
285	T. D. S. Sudurajitha		
285	N. C. Dolomulla		
280	D. A. Gamage		
288	D. M. M. Dissanayake		
289	K. Dedunupitiya		
289	N. S. Jasenthuliyana		
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291	D. R. D. Vidyarathna		
292	A. G. P. Karunarathna		
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294	R. C. Rajapaksha E. M. U. W. P. Rathnayaka		
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290	N.W. M. R. B. Bothota		
297	A. G. H. Ranasingha		
298	K. P. I. R. R. Kahatapitiya I. M. S. Sandamali		
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306	Dayani Siriwardhane		
307	P. G.W. Weerathunga	-	
308	P. U. H. P. A. Gunathilaka	4	
309	A. U. K. Ranasinghe	-	
310	A. D. S. Muthukumara	-	
311	M. T. A. Manathunga		
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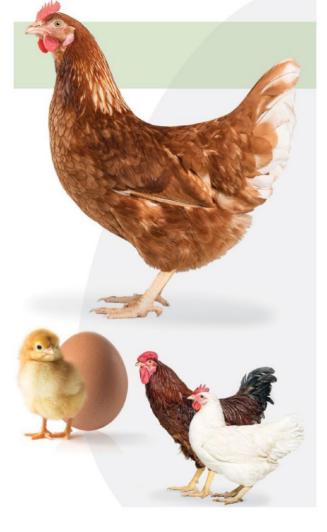
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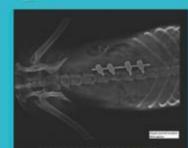
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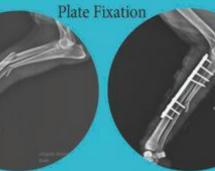
















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