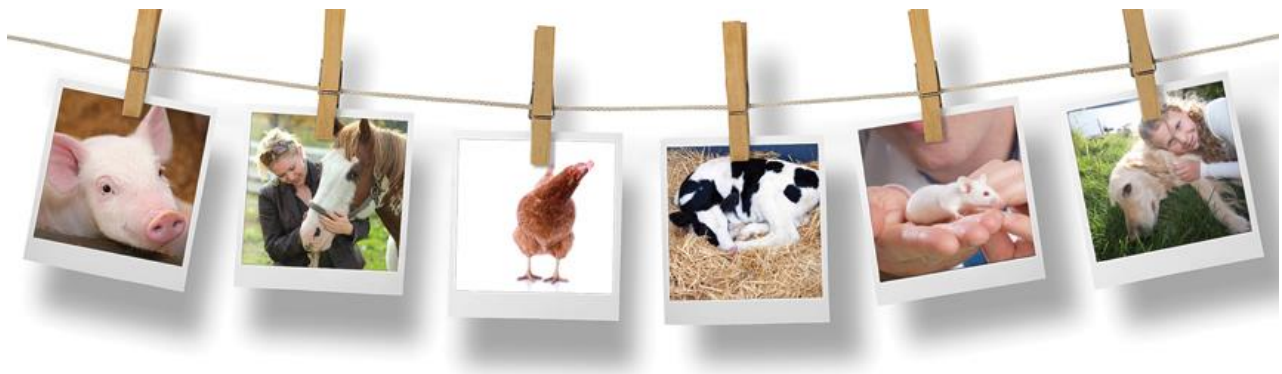




# Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare Annual Report 2015-2016



This report covers the period from June 1, 2015 to May 30, 2016

## Background

The University of Guelph is internationally recognized as a centre of excellence in the study of animal welfare. We have a long and respected reputation in research, education and advising industry and policy-makers on all aspects of the care and use of animals by human beings, including farm animals, laboratory animals, companion and zoo animals and wildlife.

The Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare (CSAW) was approved by Senate in 1989 to formally acknowledge the collective expertise of our Associated Faculty and to strengthen their activities. It was the first of its kind in North America and second of its kind in the world. In 1995, a University Chair in Animal Welfare was established, and in 1996, the Centre was renamed the Colonel K.L. Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare in recognition of the commitment and support of Mrs. Mona Campbell, the widow of the late Colonel Campbell. Since that time, our undergraduate and graduate teaching programs, the numbers of faculty members specializing in animal welfare science and the breadth of research projects focused on animal welfare have continued to grow.

## Our Mission

Is to promote the welfare of animals through research, outreach and education. The Campbell Centre's objectives fall into three broad categories, research, education and outreach. In support of this purpose, CCSAW is responsible for raising and allocating funds to build a network for collaboration that supports scholarly animal welfare activities across the University of Guelph.

Over the last several years, public concern for animals used by society has evolved considerably and today there is an even greater sensitivity to animal welfare issues and a demand for formal policy and guidelines in all of the animal industries and professions. These changes have revealed an urgent need for the Campbell Centre to help animals and society through its activities, to more effectively communicate our research findings and to expand our research and education programs to the following groups:

- Scientists and academics in training
- Students entering the workforce in the animal industries, animal care and the veterinary professions
- Public and corporate policy makers who make decisions about the funding, research, regulation and economics of animal use
- Regulatory agencies
- People who directly work with or handle animals
- Members of the broader community (the media, the public) who want to learn about animal welfare from credible sources
- Advocacy groups – to ensure that they have accurate information and that any call for change is appropriate

## Our Structure

The **Dean of the Ontario Veterinary College** is the University-designated official with responsibility and authority for ensuring that CCSAW is fulfilling its mandate and reporting on CCSAW activities to the Vice-President Research.

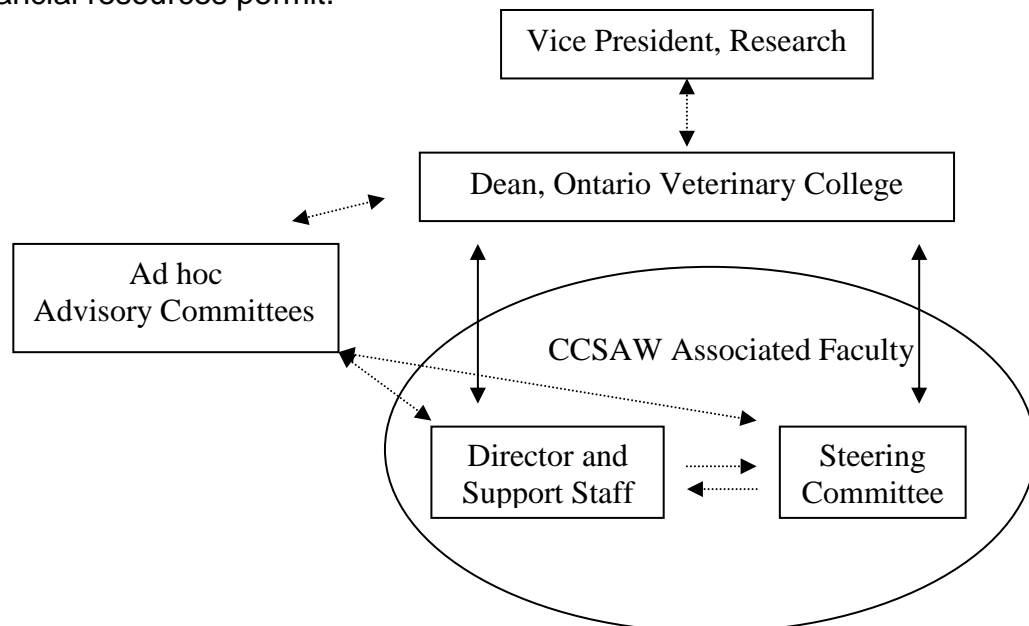
**CCSAW Associated Faculty** comprises a broad group of individuals drawn from across the colleges and regional campuses with active interests in animal welfare, human-animal relationships and related ethical issues. Our Faculty and students have interests and expertise in diverse areas from the biological sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities. Represented disciplines include, animal welfare science, veterinary medicine, psychology, philosophy, zoology, geography, history, and economics.

The **Director** of the Campbell Centre is responsible for administering CCSAW activities and supervising communications and administrative staff.

The function of the **Steering Committee** is to provide advice and assistance to the Director and the Dean on activities of the Campbell Centre, ensuring a broad, multidisciplinary approach to CCSAW research and education activities.

An Executive Committee for setting tasks and making administrative decisions concerning the Campbell Centre and the Steering Committee is comprised of the Dean, the Director and the Chair of the Steering Committee. They may establish *ad hoc* or other **Advisory Committees** from outside of the university community, as appropriate, to focus on specific targeted initiatives (e.g. symposia, workshops, training programs, fundraising campaigns). These committees should encourage and facilitate wide industry, government and public involvement.

**CCSAW support staff** includes a Communications and Outreach Coordinator and additional administrative and support staff that may be hired as needed and as financial resources permit.



## **Steering Committee 2015-2016**

The Steering Committee is comprised of a minimum of eight members including Associated Faculty drawn from across colleges, one undergraduate or graduate student, and one staff member from Animal Care Services or the Campbell Centre. Members are appointed for three years and meet at least two times per year.

### **Appointed Faculty Members:**

Dr. Trevor Devries, Department of Animal Biosciences  
Ms. Gayle Ecker, Director, Equine Guelph  
Dr. Derek Haley, Department of Population Medicine, Chair  
Dr. Alexandra Harlander, Department of Animal Biosciences  
Dr. Mike von Massow, Department of Hospitality, Food and Tourism Management  
Dr. Lee Niel, Department of Population Medicine  
Dr. Stephanie Torrey, Department of Animal Biosciences

### **Ex Officio:**

Dr. Anna Bolinder, Assistant Director, Animal Care Services  
Dr. Ian JH Duncan, Professor Emeritus ABSc, University Chair in Animal Welfare

### **Student Members:**

Ms. Carly Moody, Department of Population Medicine

### **Other non-voting members:**

Kim Sheppard, CCSAW Communications & Outreach Coordinator  
Dr. Jeffrey Wichtel, Dean OVC  
Dr. Tina Widowski, Department of Animal Biosciences, CCSAW Director

## **Our Funding**

From its inception, all revenues used to support CCSAW operating expenses came from funds raised through private donors and sponsorships. The bequest of Mrs. Mona Campbell provides partial support of CCSAW operations from the Colonel K.L. Campbell University (endowed) Chair in Animal Welfare.

The FW Presant Memorial Lecture series is funded by the OAC Alumni Foundation. The Animal Welfare Foundation of Canada Lecture in Memory of Basil Capes is funded by the Animal Welfare Foundation of Canada.

A generous bequest from Joyce Olive Mallard made to the OVC for Animal Welfare in 2014 is being used to support our strategic goals and commitment to enhancing the training and experience of undergraduate, graduate and DVM students in the field of animal welfare. Funds from this generous donation will be used for an annual Travel Grant for students attending animal welfare conferences, workshops or courses and will support the travel costs of our Animal Welfare Judging Teams to attend the annual international AWJAC contest (see page 10).

Revenues are also generated from knowledge transfer grants, sponsorships for lectures, symposia and student events and through service fees charged for developing and delivering non-degree training programs.

## **CCSAW Activities 2015-2016**

The Campbell Centre's mission is to promote animal welfare through research and education. Regular lecture series, seminars, and extension work have always been part of our outreach efforts.

Due to our continued success in raising the profile of the Campbell Centre, and the increasing attention that animal welfare receives, the Campbell Centre has logged several significant requests for educational and training programs, lectures, review of documents, partnerships etc., which we continue to develop in accordance with our Strategic Plan.



## **Education**

### **Education Committee**

The Education Committee informs animal welfare education and training in the degree programs, including undergraduate, graduate, and DVM programs. The overarching goals of this committee are to increase the quality and numbers of students, academics and professionals in the field of animal welfare, and to enrich the learning environment for our students. Committee members for 2015-2016: Lee Niel (Chair), Tina Widowski, Trevor DeVries, Carly Moody.



### **Graduate course UNIV 6030**

Graduate course UNIV 6030: Seminars and Analysis in Animal Behaviour and Welfare.

Each year this graduate course, based around our CCSAW Animal Behaviour and Welfare Seminar Series, is taught by one of CCSAW faculty. In 2015-2016 UNIV 6030 was taught by Alexandra Harlander (Animal Biosciences). The course consists of brainstorming sessions with guest speakers who are invited from various fields and professions related to animal welfare, with the goal of engaging students with a variety of perspectives to broaden their ideas regarding the topic.

Thirteen graduate students were enrolled in the course. Students were also invited from other departments such as the Department of Philosophy, and though not enrolled officially, they added unique perspectives to the discussions. Four to 5 non-enrolled students typically attended, creating an inter-departmental and interdisciplinary group to generate insightful and meaningful discussion.

### **Saputo Dairy Care Program**



The Campbell Centre and Saputo Inc. have partnered to create a new animal welfare program at the University of Guelph. The Saputo Dairy Care Program was made possible by a \$500,000 gift from Saputo Inc.

and resulted in the creation of a new staff position, the Saputo Dairy Care Manager.

Together with CCSAW Associated Faculty the program will be delivered through the Ontario Veterinary College and will focus on providing practical dairy welfare education to practicing dairy veterinarians, and dairy producers, and it will also include a dedicated Dairy Welfare rotation for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine students in the final year of study.

“This new program fits nicely with our mission to promote the welfare of animals through research, outreach and education” says Tina Widowski, Professor of Animal and Poultry Science and Director, Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare. “It will compliment and help expand current animal health and well-being learning opportunities offered at the University of Guelph.”

The investment is a part of the company's launch of a new Animal Welfare Policy. Investments have also been made into two dairy welfare initiatives at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine.

**New DVM Rotation at the Ontario Veterinary College:  
DAIRY CATTLE WELFARE**

As part of the The Saputo Dairy Care Program, Associated Faculty from the Campbell Centre have created a brand new Phase IV rotation for DVM students in their final year of study.

Dairy Cattle Welfare will be a week-long rotation at the Ontario Veterinary College, offered twice during the academic year - once in each of the Fall and Winter semesters.

For the 2016-17 academic year the rotation will take place during weeks F13 (November 28, 2016 to December 4, 2016) and W24 (February 13, 2017 to February 19, 2017). This elective experience is aimed at final year veterinary students intending to go into dairy practice.



Lena Levison, Saputo Dairy Care Program Manager

With financial support from Saputo Inc., space has been set-aside for DVM students from other veterinary colleges in Canada to participate in this rotation. Some funding is available to help defer the cost of their attendance.

The rotation will provide experiences, practice & structured learning opportunities in the context of dairy cattle welfare. It aims, in particular, to provide hands-on experience in practical welfare assessment and communication.

In the course, students will:

1. Recall existing dairy welfare standards based on the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Dairy Cattle, and recognize contraventions.
2. Carry out practical dairy cattle welfare assessments.
3. Practice communicating with clients and colleagues about animal welfare.



## **CCSAW Animal Behaviour and Welfare Seminar Series**

These seminars were open to the campus community and the public and made available to off-campus participants by webinar.

### ***“Companion animal research: Balancing science, welfare, and public perception”***

Prof Kate Shoveller, University of Guelph  
September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### ***“Anthropomorphism in animal cognition research”***

Prof Kristin Andrews, York University  
October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### ***“The Rise of Genetics and Its impact on Breeding in the Chicken, Dairy, and Beef Industries”***

Dr. Margaret Derry, University of Guelph  
Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015

### ***“Consumer Perspectives on Animal Welfare: What They Think, What They Know and Why it Matters”***

Prof Michael Von Massow, University of Guelph  
January 28, 2016

### ***“The Welfare of Animals Without Owners”***

Dr. Tyler Flockhart, University of Guelph  
March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

### ***“Animal Welfare Ethics”***

Prof. Gary Varner, Texas A&M University  
March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016

**In addition to our regular seminars and lecture series, a variety of activities are offered specifically to enhance our undergraduate, graduate and DVM students' educational experiences:**

### **Connection – Behaviour Group**

For graduate students and faculty who focus on animal behaviour and welfare research, the Behaviour Group listserv managed by Derek Haley connects students and faculty across campuses providing a regular discussion forum for news, job postings, thoughts and activities (books, movies, and lectures, on and off campus). In 2015/2016 the list membership was approximately 80 faculty and students. This group also meets weekly on an informal basis.

### **Animal Welfare Judging and Assessment Contest (AWJAC)**

For over 10 years, teams of students have travelled to universities in the USA to compete in the annual Animal Welfare Judging & Assessment Contest, and in 2012 and 2013 this contest was hosted by the University of Guelph. Annually, teams of students spend several months intensively preparing for this academic competition by learning subject material, performing practice assessments, and defending their position.

The contest aims to provide a unique educational experience while strengthening student vocabulary and reasoning skills. The AWJAC teaches students to assess the welfare of animals in a variety of settings using science-based methods and reasoning. Students are given the opportunity to weigh evidence and present sound evaluations. This contest ensures that tomorrow's leaders in the animal industries develop strong communication skills and acquire enhanced knowledge of animal welfare.

On November 14 & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015, three University of Guelph teams participated in the competition at Ohio State University. In the undergraduate division, the University of Guelph team placed 1<sup>st</sup> overall, and in the individual undergraduate division, Melissa Herman placed second overall and Kaitlyn Dancy placed third overall out of 44. In the graduate division, the University of Guelph placed second overall, and in the individual graduate division, Meghan Callon placed third and Tanya Wilson placed fifth out of 11. In the individual veterinary division, Julia Robertson placed first out of 45.



The 2015 University of Guelph AWJAC Judging Teams

## Student Chapter

The Campbell Centre Student Chapter executive leads and runs educational activities designed to enhance students' educational experience and engage prospective students in the field of animal welfare.

In the 2016 academic year, executive members were:

Carly Moody, President, PhD Student, Department of Pop Med, Feline behaviour and welfare

Tanya Wilson, Vice President, MSc Student, Department of Pop Med, Dairy behaviour and welfare

Cata Medrano-Galarza, Co-coordinator, PhD Candidate, Department of Pop Med, Dairy behaviour and welfare

Kenlyn Ramsey, Co-coordinator, MSc Student, Department of Pop Med, Companion animal behaviour and welfare

Morgan Ellis, Co-coordinator, MSc Coursework, Department of Animal Biosciences, Animal behaviour and welfare



From left to right: Carly Moody, Kenlyn Ramsey, Tanya Wilson, Cata Medrano-Galarza, Morgan Ellis

## Activities

Over the past year, the student chapter held a number of events for undergraduate and graduate students interested in animal welfare science. Students from across campus sign up on Club Days held twice each year.

### Field trips and tours

The Student Chapter held their annual “behind-the scenes” tours focusing on the care and welfare of zoo and laboratory animals.

*Metro Toronto Zoo.* This tour is held every spring. Several graduate students doing animal behaviour and welfare projects at the zoo, together with alumni who work at the zoo, participate in leading the tour.

*Central Animal Facility.* A behind the scenes tour of the Central Animal Facility was held in November, 2015.

### Graduate student panel

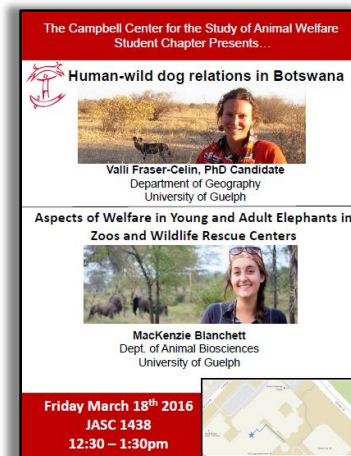
In November, graduate students presented information about their programs and experiences to undergraduates interested in applying for graduate school. This year’s panel was attended by 37 undergraduates.

### Seminars

The Student Chapter organized and hosted two lunch-time seminars in March 2016:

Human-wild dog relations in Botswana, by Valli Fraser-Celin, PhD Candidate, Department of Geography, University of Guelph.

Aspects of Welfare in Young and Adult Elephants in Zoos and Wildlife Rescue Centres, by MacKenzie Blanchett, Department of Animal Biosciences, University of Guelph.



### ‘Let’s Talk Science’ and ‘Science Encounters Animal Welfare’

In October 2015, four hundred children and their parents attended the “School of Witchcraft and Wizardry” to learn about the Care of Magical Creatures such as the motivation of cats to hide and hunt, owl nutrition and digestion, and thermoregulation and environmental needs of lizards and other ‘magical’ animals. This fun day was part of the “Let’s Talk Science” program – a charitable organization of volunteers spread out across 41 different colleges and universities across Canada, including the University of Guelph. Let’s Talk Science focuses on Science, Technology, Math and Engineering (STEM) outreach in the community, and is free to attend. “Involvement in community programs is a great way to introduce, engage and educate kids and other



community members, about animal behaviour and welfare science,' says Carly Moody, Student Chapter President for 2015/16.

The Student Chapter also developed a Dairy Welfare education day, which they offered twice over the summer for school-aged children. Created with help from Dairy Farmers of Ontario as part of the Creative Encounters with Science program, the day included learning the life cycle of the dairy cow from birth to death, typical management practices, and housing types for dairy cows, and welfare concerns specific to dairy cows.



### **Ambassadorship**

Members of the CCSAW Student Chapter also serve as ambassadors for the Campbell Centre and volunteer at our events - greeting guests, running AV and generally helping to ensure events run smoothly.

## Research

### Research Committee

The main goal of the Research Committee is to generate more scholarly knowledge on animal welfare through increased research activity. Activities are focused on increasing funding for CCSAW Associated Faculty by increasing intra- and interdisciplinary collaborations, and increasing the number of staff scientist and faculty positions. Committee members 2015-2016: Stephanie Torrey (Chair to November 2016), Trevor DeVries (Chair beginning November 2016), Anna Bolinder, Mike Von Massow, and Alexandra Harlander.

### Research Chairs in Animal Welfare

The University of Guelph has several designated research chairs in animal welfare including:

Dr. Trevor DeVries, *Canada Research Chair in Dairy Cattle Behaviour and Welfare*. This prestigious Tier 2 research chair was appointed in 2016.  
Dr. Alexandra Harlander, *Burnbrae Farms Professorship in Poultry Welfare*. Established in 2014 with gifts from Burnbrae Farms, Canadian Poultry Research Council and Poultry Industry Council, this position further strengthens UofG's capacity in the area of Poultry Welfare.

Dr. Tina Widowski, *Egg Farmers of Canada Research Chair in Poultry Welfare*. This chair, established in 2011, comes with a gift from the Egg Farmers of Canada to conduct focused research on the welfare of laying hens.

Dr. Lee Niel, *Colonel K. L. Campbell Chair in Companion Animal Welfare*. This endowed chair established in 2009, is one of the first of its kind to focus on welfare issues related to dogs and cats.

Dr. Ian Duncan, *Emeritus Chair of Animal Welfare*. Dr. Duncan was appointed this chair for his many contributions to animal welfare science and his many years of service to CCSAW.

The *Colonel K.L. Campbell University Chair in Animal Welfare* is an endowed chair that was established to provide leadership and strengthen research, education and outreach programs in animal welfare and animal ethics at the university. The Chair rotates with the Directorship of the Campbell Centre. As Director of CCSAW, Dr. Tina Widowski currently holds this chair.

### Annual Campbell Centre Animal Welfare Research Symposium

The 9th Annual Animal Welfare Research Symposium was held on May 11th, 2015. Over 155 people attended. We were honoured to host Keynote speaker Dr. Marian Dawkins, Professor of Animal Behaviour, Department of Zoology, University of Oxford who spoke on the topic of: **"Can animal welfare science resolve the paradox of animal consciousness?"**



We also heard 30 research talks and showed posters from students and faculty on a range of disciplines and species including zoo housed tigers and polar bears, mink, poultry, dairy, swine, horses, plus welfare considerations for companion animals (cats and dogs). Abstracts can be found on our website: [www.uoguelph.ca/ccsaw](http://www.uoguelph.ca/ccsaw)



Dr. Wichtel, OVC Dean, welcoming 155 attendees



Dr. Derek Haley (left) with Dr. Marian Dawkins (centre) and Dr. Ian Duncan (right)



Catalina Medrano-Galarza explains her poster

## Campbell Centre Travel Grant Competition

CCSAW Travel Grants were awarded in 2016. This round of awards marked the first year that the Travel Grants will be available to at least six University of Guelph students annually over a course of five years. Campbell Centre Director Widowski says “We are so pleased to be able to provide these exciting opportunities for our students and I know that this bright and talented group will be fantastic ambassadors for CCSAW, the UoGuelph and Canada.”

Grant winners receive up to \$1500, to be used to offset or cover the costs for travel to the event. Students may be attending to present their research findings or to enhance their educational program or professional development related to animal welfare.

This year, grants were awarded to eight students. Five of the students (**Aitor Arrazola** (PhD ABSc), **Teresa Casey-Trott** (PhD ABSc), **Lauren Dawson** (PhD PopMed), **Jacquelyn Jacobs** (PhD PopMed), **Elyse Mosco** (MSc ABSc) presented their research at the International Society for Applied Ethology Congress. The ISAE is the leading international society for scientists focused on the behavior and welfare of all types of animals under human care. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the society and our students are sure to inspire and be inspired by many of the pioneers of animal welfare science who will be at this meeting.

**Catalina Medrano-Galarza** (PhD PopMed) will be presenting her research at the 7th International Conference on the Assessment of Animal Welfare at Farm and Group Level (WAFL). This conference focuses specifically on sharing the best ways to assess animal welfare, such as welfare indicators and methods to analyse them, welfare assessment protocols, precision farming techniques for welfare measurements, statistical methods to deal with large amounts of data, genetics and welfare, and consumers and welfare labelling.

**Jessica Walsh** (MSc Pathobiology) presented her research at the 11th World Rabbit Congress in China, which is has the highest level of rabbit production in the world. The Congress brings in scientists, experts and entrepreneurs from all over the world to help progress rabbit science, including ethology and welfare.

**Emily Zakrajsek** (Phase I DVM) presented her work at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual International Society of Equitation Science Conference which is focusing on the theme of incorporating ethological methods to optimize horse-rider communication.

## **Animal Welfare Research Projects**

A broad range of research activities focusing on animal welfare and the relationships between humans and animals was conducted across the colleges. The majority of research activities involve the training of graduate students.

Below is a list of the projects completed by graduate students in 2015-2016.

### **Completed PhD Theses**

Jackie Jacobs, May 2016, *Understanding Canine Resource Guarding Behaviour: An Epidemiological Approach* (Lee Niel, Population Medicine)

Judy Stryker, May 2016, *Behaviour assessment and thermal imaging of large Felids with a focus on thermoregulatory behaviour, zoo microclimatic landscape design for thermal comfort and core body temperature detection methods* (Esther Finegan, Animal Biosciences)

Walter Sanchez, January 2015, *What does it feel like to be a bat? Searching for ways to investigate conscious emotion in non-human animals* (Georgia Mason, Animal Biosciences)

Jamie Dallaire, December 2015, *Investigating the functions of rough-and-tumble play in American mink, Neovision vison* (Georgia Mason, Animal Biosciences)

Heather Kinkaid, August 2015, *Intrinsic risk factors that make some parrot species more vulnerable than others to welfare problems in captivity* (Georgia Mason, Animal Biosciences)

### **Completed Masters Theses**

Alexandra Mitchum, August 2015, *Effect of Socialization on Impulsivity in the Domestic Dog* (Lee Niel, Population Medicine)

Emily Kaufman, August 2015, *Monitoring transition dairy cow behaviour for the detection of subclinical ketosis* (Trevor DeVries, Animal Biosciences)

Morgan Overvest, August 2015, *Effect of feeding strategy and social housing on behaviour at weaning in dairy calves* (Trevor Devries, Animal Biosciences)

Nancy Franco-Gendron, January 2016, *Investigation of Dairy Cattle Ease of Movement on New Methyl Methacrylate Resin Aggregate Floorings* (Renee Bergeron, Animal Biosciences)

Madison Kozak, May 2016, *Improving aviary designs by observing locomotor development and determining navigational preferences* (Alexandra Harlander, Animal Biosciences)

Chantal LeBlanc, May 2016, *Development of domestic fowl locomotion over inclined surfaces and use of anticipation strategies* (Alexandra Harlander, Animal Biosciences)

Lisa Wormsbecher, May 2016, *An outdoor method of housing dairy calves in pairs using individual calf hutches* (Renee Bergeron, Animal Biosciences)

Allison Mayberry, December 2015, *Human Dimensions of Human-Elephant Conflict in Botswana: Exploring Visible and Hidden Well-Being Impacts* (Alice Hovorka, Geography - emeritus)

Lauren Van Patter, September 2015, *Exploring Human-Feral Cat Relations in Southern Ontario* (Alice Hovorka, Geography - emeritus)

### **MSc. by coursework program**

A cohort of fifteen Masters by Coursework students specializing in Animal Behaviour and Welfare completed the program August 2015 or December 2015. Names and special project topics (supervisors):

Kathleen Dicker - *Effects of previous housing and social environment on the behaviour of dairy heifers on pasture* (Renée Bergeron, Animal Biosciences)

Pollyana Galdamez - *The Basking Behaviour of Canada's Most Endangered Frog: The Oregon Spotted Frog, Rana pretiosa* (Esther Finegan, Animal Biosciences)

Andrea Habinski - *Development of perching behavior in 3 strains of pullets reared in furnished cages* (Tina Widowski, Animal Biosciences)

Bethia Kok - *The effects of feliway on post-translocation stress in tigers (Panthera tigris)* (Laura Graham, Animal Biosciences)

Geisa Mainardes - *Effect of social feeding environment on the feeding behaviour of dairy cows and their willingness to consume a novel feed* (Trevor DeVries, Animal Biosciences)

Elyse Mosco - *The effect of alternative feeding strategies during rearing on the physiology of broiler breeders* (Stephanie Torrey, Animal Biosciences)

Lindsay Nakonechny - *Current perceptions and usage of artificial aids by horse enthusiasts in Canada* (Katrina Merkies, Animal Biosciences)

Julia Robertson - *Developing field methods to noninvasively monitor adrenal function in North American river otters (Lontra Canadensis)* (Laura Graham, Animal Biosciences)

Amanda Saunders - *Assessing the existence of a critical period for the learning of grazing behaviour in dairy heifers* (Renée Bergeron, Animal Biosciences)

Melissa Speirs - *Early socialization improves the ability of pet dogs, Canis familiaris, to use social referencing with a stranger in an object-choice task* (Lee Niel, Population Medicine)

Anastasia Stellato - *Assessment of fear-related behaviours displayed by companion dogs (Canis familiaris) in response to social and non-social stimuli* (Lee Niel, Population Medicine)

Melissa Atkinson - *Do umbilical hernias reduce play behavior, a welfare indicator in growing pigs?* (Robert Friendship, Population Medicine)

Stephen Pond - *Are stereotypic mice impaired in social learning tasks?* (Georgia Mason, Animal Biosciences)

Gillian Hatch - *Validating indicators of heat stress in mink* (Georgia Mason, Animal Biosciences)

Morgan Trotter - *The effects of acute noise on shrew mortality* (Andrew McAdam, Integrative Biology)

### **Animal Behaviour and Welfare Group (ABW)**

The Animal Behaviour and Welfare Group (ABW) is the collection of faculty, students and staff at the University of Guelph whose primary focus for research and teaching is in animal welfare science. Their laboratories are located in the Departments of Animal Biosciences, Population Medicine and Pathobiology.  
<http://www.uoguelph.ca/abw/>

## **Outreach**

### **Outreach Committee**

The Outreach Committee develops strategies to transfer knowledge and increase awareness of animal welfare issues and practices to key groups, and provides expertise to inform public and corporate policy related to animal welfare. This

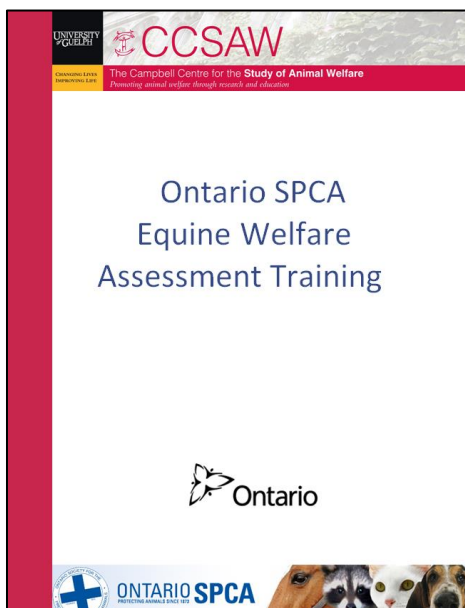
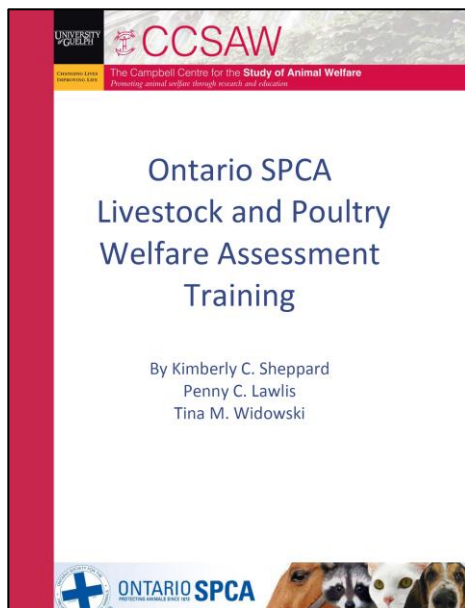
includes development of non-degree training opportunities and certificate programs and increasing research dissemination.

The committee also works toward enhancing faculty involvement on provincial, national, and international advisory committees that influence animal welfare and facilitate placement of CCSAW graduates in key provincial, national, and international animal organizations that influence animal welfare. 2015-2016 Committee members include Kimberly Sheppard (Chair), Ian Duncan, Tina Widowski, Alexandra Harlander, Derek Haley and Mike Von Massow.

### Non-Degree Training program initiatives

#### OSPCA Animal Welfare Assessment Training

The *Livestock and Poultry Welfare Assessment Training* course for OSPCA agents was delivered for the 7<sup>h</sup> time in June 2015 in partnership with OMAFRA Health and Welfare Branch. The course covers welfare fundamentals and assessment of the main livestock species and includes beef cattle, dairy cattle, poultry (layers, broilers, breeders, ostrich, emu), and swine. The course comprises in-class instruction followed by farm visits and practice assessments.



Our *Equine Welfare Assessment* course was also offered for a third time. Developed and delivered in cooperation with Equine Guelph, the course covers welfare fundamentals and assessment of equines. It is comprised of in-class instruction followed by visits to stables and rescue facilities to practice handling, body condition scoring and welfare assessment.



## Equine Welfare Certificate Program



The Campbell Centre continues to collaborate with Equine Guelph to support development and delivery of an online Certificate in Equine Welfare offered through the office of Open Learning and Educational Support. Made up of six online courses, this program is designed to engage students who have a passion for improving the lives of equids and examines the biological and emotional factors that affect a horse's quality of life. Course content includes housing, management practices and procedures that can affect the well-being of horses.

Two equine welfare courses provide a foundation for understanding equine welfare fundamentals and issues around the globe:

**Equine Welfare** explores controversial and sensitive issues surrounding the use of horses, introduces students to concepts in animal welfare and how it is defined, investigates how welfare can be objectively assessed in the horse, and examines specific practices which may compromise horse welfare.

**Global Perspectives in Equine Welfare** explores practices across the globe, examines current issues of wild horse management, working horses in developing countries, racing and sport horse practices, slaughter legislation, horses in research, unwanted horses and equine rescue facilities and a compares different equine management practices used around the world.

Equine studies online courses are part of an open enrollment program. Students are not required to be admitted into the certificate program, they register for courses when their schedule permits and once they have completed the requirements they apply for the Equine Welfare Certificate.

In 2015-16, Equine Welfare and Global Perspectives in Equine Welfare were offered and had a registration of 12 and 17 students respectively. We also had our first graduates of the Equine Welfare Certificate last year. At the end of the April 2016 three Equine Welfare Certificates were awarded.

## **CCSAW Associated Faculty Invited Presentations at Professional, Industry, and Government Meetings**

**Animal Welfare Judging and Assessment Contest (AWJAC) team meeting, Guelph, Ontario.** “Welfare of Draft Horses,” Dr. Katrina Merkies.

**Annual Equine Research Day, Guelph, Ontario.** “Whip use in racing,” Dr. Katrina Merkies

**Boehringer-Ingelheim Expert Forum on Farm Animal Well Being, Montreal, Quebec.** “Big data to improve animal welfare: how information from automated dairy systems could be better used to improve welfare,” Dr. David Kelton

**Colloque STELA.** “Bien-être animal et durabilité dans le secteur laitier,” Dr. Renée Bergeron

**Dairy Farmers of Canada Dairy Research Symposium, Ottawa, Ontario.** “National Dairy Study 2015: A critical tool in our arsenal for optimal dairy cattle health and management,” Dr. David Kelton

**International Society of Equitation Science Annual Conference, Vancouver, BC.** “Prevalence of the use of head control equipment in riding horses,” Dr. Katrina Merkies

**Ontario Institute of Agrologists Central Branch Meeting** (Tina Widowski, Animal Biosciences)

**OVC Animal Welfare Forum, Guelph, Ontario.** “Horse behaviour and the application of learning theory in equine veterinary medicine,” Dr. Katrina Merkies

**Poultry Industry Council Innovations Conference, London, Ontario.** “Feeding behaviour in large furnished cages”, Dr. Tina Widowski

**The Sustainability Consortium (TSC) 2016 Summit** (Tina Widowski, Animal Biosciences)

## Newsletter

We published our newsletter, CCSAW News, in the spring. The issue featured D. Alexandra Harlander and her research team, and the work they are doing to improve laying hen welfare. Other features include: B4 U Get a Pet Website; Saputo Dairy Care Program; Animal Memorial Services at the University of Guelph; The Student Chapter Teaching and Reaching the Children; Gayle Ecker Wins Prestigious Equine Industry Vision Award; University of Guelph Celebrates Success at Welfare Judging Competition; Top Video Prize Awarded to Catalina Medrano-Galarza; First Ever Innovation Grant Awarded to Dr. Katrina Merkies; Behaviour and Welfare Seminar Series



## Informing Policy

CCSAW Associated Faculty provides animal welfare expertise on a number of committees and via meetings with government and industry stakeholders. Notable contributions in 2015-2016 include:

### Committee Membership

#### National Codes of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farm Animals

The Canadian Codes of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farm Animals are considered to be the accepted standard of care for animals on Canadian farms. Numerous CCSAW Associated Faculty and students have participated in Code development in various roles as representatives of scientific and veterinary organizations and stakeholder groups of the newly updated codes and those currently under revision. See <http://www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice>

Broilers, Breeders and Turkeys Code Development Committee: Pat Turner (Pathobiology), Ian Duncan (Animal Biosciences).

Layers - Code Development Committee: Ian Duncan (Animal Biosciences), Leanne Cooley (Animal Biosciences), Tina Widowski (Animal Biosciences).

Rabbits Code Development Committee: Pat Turner (Pathobiology) Stephanie Torrey (Animal Biosciences)

Veal – Veal Calves Code of Practice Scientists' Committee: Derek Haley (Population Medicine).

## **Additional Committees with an Animal Welfare Focus**

American Dairy Science Association Animal Behaviour and Wellbeing Committee (Trevor DeVries, Animal Biosciences)

Board of the National Farm Animal Care Council (Renée Bergeron, Animal Biosciences)

Board of Trustees of the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC), as a representative of the American Dairy Science Association (ADSA) (Trevor DeVries, Animal Biosciences)

Board of Trustees of the Animal Welfare Foundation of Canada (Lee Niel, Population Medicine, Renée Bergeron, Animal Biosciences)

Dairy Farmers of Canada in its development of an Animal Care Assessment Model Advisory Committee. Program Development Team: Trevor DeVries (Animal & Poultry Science), Derek Haley (Population Medicine)

Dairy Farmers of Ontario Research Committee (David Kelton, Population Medicine)

Dairy Farmers of Ontario ProAction Advisory Committee (David Kelton, Population Medicine)

International Dairy Federation Standing Committee on Animal Health and Welfare (David Kelton, Population Medicine)

Technical Committee for Dairy Farmers of Canada Animal Care Assessment Program (Trevor DeVries, Animal Biosciences)

United Egg Producers Scientific Committee on Animal Welfare (Tina Widowski, Animal Biosciences)

## **Media**

### **CBC Radio**

Is it a crime to give a pig water on a hot day?" March 2016, Tina Widowski, Ian Duncan, and Michael Von Massow interviewed

### **Hopes and Fears** (hopesandfears.com)

"Why do people seem to care more about the suffering of animals than humans," August 2015, Karen Houle interviewed

### **KW Magazine CKWR-FM radio talk show**

"Welfare of therapy horses," January 2016, Katrina Merkies interviewed

### **Milk Producer Magazine**

"A Better Picture of Lameness," June 2016, David Kelton interviewed.

### **National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) Project Achievements Report 2015-2016**

"Critical role of the Scientific Committee", Tina Widowski featured

### **Ontario Farmer**

"Europe knows farms will get larger and less attended", May 2015, CCSAW  
Invited speaker Dr. Christopher Knight featured

### **Ontario Farmer**

"Hens have their say on aviaries," May 2015, Alexandra Harlander Interviewed

### **Ontario Farmer**

What Science has taught us about handling practices, June 2015, CCSAW,  
Invited speaker Dr. Jeff Rushen featured

### **Ontario Hog Farmer**

"Measuring Pain" June/July 2015, CCSAW Invited Speaker Eberhard Von Borell featured

### **Radio-Canada, television (National), Interview on national television (French);**

"L'épicerie", Le bien-être animal, juste du marketing?" March 2016, Renée Bergeron interviewed

**The Food Institute** "Opening the barn doors on cage-free eggs", April 2016, Tina Widowski

**The Globe and Mail**

“The cage-free egg trend: Is it just a shell game?” May 2016, T. Widowski interviewed

**The Toronto Star**

“What exactly are cage-free eggs? How do Canadian restaurants source eggs? An explainer,” February 2016, T. Widowski interviewed

**The Toronto Star**

“How McDonald’s free-run egg move hatches potential for better poultry practices”, October 2015, Tina Widowski interviewed

**The Western Producer**

“University eager to use donation to educate veterinarians, farmers”, June 2015, Derek Haley interviewed



## Administration and Staff

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