



LIVE

Lifelong Independent **Veterinary** Education

The Royal Veterinary College's
Centre for Excellence in Teaching & Learning (CETL)

Website: www.live.ac.uk



Summary

Veterinary education is facing challenging times ahead in preparing new graduates for the modern workplace. The LIVE Centre is a unique educational Centre of Excellence that has dedicated staff and labs to help veterinary students develop their professional and practical skills, and clinical reasoning. LIVE also conducts innovative research into technology enhanced learning. Donations to the LIVE centre will help us to continue to develop new approaches to learning within the profession and ensure that our students become professional, reflective practitioners.

LIVE Projects: Some examples, the present and the future

Continued Professional Development (CPD)

So far: A survey of the profession has helped us identify the barriers to, and motivations for, practitioners engaging in CPD. The survey had a good response rate indicating the relevance and engagement of the profession in the CPD 'debate'. A summary of these findings is available on the LIVE website.

How your donations will help: Enable us to undertake the next stage of this project. We plan to explore the key issues further by interviewing vets, and using the results of the study to try to tackle the barriers, facilitate access to CPD and tailor provision to individual needs.

Haptic Simulators

Now widely used at the RVC to teach e.g. bovine rectal palpation skills, and in a farm visit role-play; rectal palpation of equine colic cases; and most recently in anatomy.

So far:

The most well known is the **Haptic Cow** but new simulators are being developed all the time e.g. equine colic, a cat



How your donations will help:

1. Enable us to **expand the range** of these successful haptic simulators and help students learn e.g.

- K9 palpation skills
- Surgical skills

2. Using haptic technology to do research to **unravel expertise:**

- Recordings of vets perform tasks can be used to improve our teaching

3. Further develop '**Games 4 Skills**'

So far:



Games 4 Skills

A new innovation! We've started to develop haptic computer games for students to learn a whole variety of hands-on skills

Workplace Learning & Extramural Studies (EMS)

So far: LIVE researchers are involved in several projects related to EMS, a very topical subject at the moment. The work covers several areas e.g.

- In collaboration with Edinburgh vet school, a Computer Aided Learning (CAL) package has been developed to 'help students help themselves' prepare for EMS
- In collaboration with PDSA staff, a log book has been developed enabling students to identify and prioritise learning objectives and set action plans with their supervisors
- 'Training the trainers' – a project to provide students (i.e. the EMS providers of the future) with teaching skills

How your donations will help: Enable us to continue undertaking work to help the vet schools, the students and those in practice make EMS 'work for all'. E.g. provide the teaching skills workshop for practicing vets, evaluate the packages (CAL & log book).

Mobile and Social Learning

So far: Projects have been investigating how students might use mobile and Web2 technologies to improve their learning and reflective practice. For example

- Sharing and uploading cases and accessing resources via a mobile phone
- Harnessing Web2 technology for social learning centring around case discussion

How your donations will help: Support further student involvement in the development and evaluation processes.



Professionalism

So far: Professionalism and the teaching of the associated skills have increased prominence in the new curriculum. This is in recognition of the importance to the veterinary surgeon's career of certain non-technical skills. Projects have been developing resources and investigating teaching for e.g. communication skills, business skills for new graduates and clinical reasoning.

How your donations will help: Further funding will be used to evaluate the impact of professionalism training in practice and continue to identify areas where further development of teaching resources would be beneficial e.g. ethics, interprofessional skills, factors influencing clinical reasoning.
