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An introduction from our IVSA President

Since we still hear the questions about what IVSA actually is!

**IVSA stands for:**
The International Veterinary Students’ Association - and it’s how you can meet vet students from all over the world, visit virtually any country you want for placement or fun and get involved with global veterinary organisations.

**How do I join?**
*IVSA UK & Ireland* is your local branch. You automatically gain IVSA membership when you sign up for membership with AVS, as they have recently combined!

There is a UK committee is made up of: **President** (Rosie Herrington, Edinburgh)

There also will be amazing representatives at every University who should introduce themselves to you, and will be responsible for organising the exchanges that occur every year (effectively an opportunity for you to *cheaply visit vet students in another country*).

**Benefits of your membership**
On top of our university group exchanges, you also can ask our Exchange Officer, Tav, to help set you up with an EMS placement in another country, where **a fellow student will help organise your accommodation and logistics.**

We also act as the messenger from the global IVSA committee bringing you opportunities to join like-minded students either on the numerous Standing Committees (One Health, Animal Welfare, Mental Wellness and Education) or to attend prestigious events such as the World Veterinary Congress, World Small Animal Veterinary Association Congress, IVSA summer Congress, IVSA Winter Symposium and so on.
Furthermore, we also do serious work with professional organisations including global health organisations and the BSAVA (British Small Animal Veterinary Association). Examples of some recent work include **Rosie attending the World Health Organisation’s ‘World Health Assembly’ in Geneva, sitting on the BSAVA international affairs committee**, recent collaboration with Students for Global Health (previously MedSin), being involved in the inaugural National Students One Health Conference and of course being involved in AVS work. Our Public Health Officer Radha also will be organising events for International Rabies Day, Stop TB day, Antimicrobial Resistance Day and more.

**How to get involved**

So if you think you’d like to get involved to make your impression on the global veterinary student field and gain tonnes of opportunities, then there will be a few options to look out for:
- Simply attending the IVSA events we advertise can help you to experience the association and make friends. Attend your university’s exchange or go on an individual exchange!
- Run to be your university’s IVSA representative if you fancy organising an exchange.
- Apply to be on one of the Global Standing Committees which we will advertise later in September (no prior experience needed - just go for it!).
- Apply to be on the UK or Global IVSA Executive Committees.

The main thing to emphasise is IVSA is open to ALL students studying at UK and Irish vet schools. You don’t need much experience, or to love policy or even to have loads of time; all you need is an enthusiasm to work with students from other countries and learn from them.

For any more information please don’t hesitate to contact:
- **Rosie Herrington, presidentivsauk@gmail.com**
- **Tavishi Pandya, eoivsauk@gmail.com**
- Find your University rep details at: [http://sandbox.ivsa.org.uk/uk-irish-vet-school/](http://sandbox.ivsa.org.uk/uk-irish-vet-school/)
- Also check out our new website for updates [http://www.ivsa.org.uk](http://www.ivsa.org.uk)
- And the IVSA Global Website: [http://www.ivsa.org/](http://www.ivsa.org/)
Naples 2017: FANTASTIC BEASTS EVENT

By Tavishi Pandya, IVSA Royal Veterinary College Senior Representative and IVSA UK & Ireland Exchange Officer

On the 18th May 9 students from the Royal Veterinary College, London arrived in the city of Naples to attend ‘Neopolitan Fantastic Beasts’ an event hosted by IVSA Napoli.

After settling into our hostel we decided to explore our surroundings aka birth place of Pizza, home to a million churches and lemonchello central before heading over to the Veterinary University.

We were welcomed by the Naples organising committee (OC) who set out the itinerary for the busy week we had ahead of us. We were also introduced to arguably the biggest character of the whole trip, the Ex-Dean of the university, with eyebrows to match- they’re full of secrets! A buffet was provided which was described to us as ‘light refreshment’ but as we quickly realised the Italian’s version of ‘light’ was an understatement and this buffet set the tone for a week of food! After the evening of introductions and mingling we rolled our full stomachs back to our hostel to sample some of the bars around the area.
19/05

We met the first of the ‘Neapolitan fantastic beasts’ – the iconic Neapolitan Mastiff. In the morning we listened to lectures from top professors at the university about the history of the breed and the diseases they are predisposed to. In the afternoon, we learnt about thoraco lumbar discopathy and tried our baby vet hands at preforming a hemi-laminectomy on cadavers lead by specialist Professor Gerardo Fatone.

20/05

We arrived at Pompeii by train and had the whole day to explore the ruins of this Ancient Roman town lead by the ever knowledgeable Stephano Di Nola, a first year who seemed to have an encyclopaedia in his brain; his specialist topics being Pompeii and the wizarding world of Harry Potter.
In the afternoon we returned to Naples to get ready for a formal dinner and dancing! All the dancing was definitely needed to burn off the elaborate 6-course meal (the Italians are feeders!), where we were serenaded by our own private band singing Napolese folk songs.

21/05 ➔

The morning after there was little time to sooth our heads as we were met at the hostel to be guided round the city by students Luciana, Stephano and Michele. We discovered old alleys, spectacular churches and monuments and after a quick lunch we ambled down to the sea front to have a splash around. The black volcanic sand was as fascinating to us as nine Englishmen frolicking about in the sea was to
our swimming adventure was Damian from Poland while the remaining Italian, Thailand and Algerian delegates looked on in a mixture of horror and hysterics!

At dinner that evening we tasted a Neapolitan speciality, ‘Ragu’, and once again were confronted with a ludicrous amount of food!

22/05 →

We departed early on the Monday to have a tour around the Liverini Feed factory which produces 15 tonnes of feed every day! The Liverini brothers also put on a very impressive lunch including 6kg of mozzarella and had members of the press attend to document our visit, the brothers were very proud to be a family run company on a global level. From here we headed to a small ricotta factory to taste yet more cheese, but this time...
of the sheep variety. We then visited the next of the fantastic beasts – the Bagnolesi sheep which are hand milked every day.

23/04

All our senses were trialled the next day as we visited an anchovy and tuna factory. It was fascinating to see how their female only workforce hand processed everything. We then headed to the regional centre for the monitoring of Parasites, suited up in the most fashionable of gear we took part in a necropsy of a Mediterranean buffalo calf that had died unexpectedly. The post mortem was led by Professor Orlando Paciello and we soon discovered the calf had died from uroabdomen. It was great to compete over dissection technique and compare how much practical teaching our different vet schools gave us. In the evening, we toured and watched the sunset over the Greek temples in Paestum,

24/04

On Wednesday we encountered the most impressive of the Neapolitan beasts: the Mediterranean buffalo. We toured around a typically huge farm with its 1000
strong herd. We also tried our arms at rectalling a few to pregnancy diagnose, which was surprisingly much shorter than cows!

We returned to Naples to thoroughly clean up before the farewell dinner and vet party.

Minds were stretched, stomachs were stretched, and overall we had the most fantastic week. But it was time to bid a final farewell to IVSA Naples. Weighted with sadness (and that extra stone we had all put on), we boarded the plane back to the UK knowing we had made lifelong friends.
Vet Student Representation at the World Health Assembly - 'One Health' on a global scale

By Rosie Herrington, IVSA UK & Ireland President

This year I was lucky enough to be one of the student delegates attending the 70th World Health Assembly as a part of the International Federation of Medical Students’ Association (or Medsin to the UK). This was composed of 47 medical students from around the world and 2 veterinary students - we were vastly outnumbered! This however presented a great opportunity to shout on behalf of IVSA that vet students are interested in Global Health and can give a valuable contribution to the field.

The World Health Assembly, in short, is the World Health Organisation's (WHO) annual gathering, with health workers from across the world descending upon the United Nations Palais de Nacions in Geneva. Every countries health ministers attend (i.e. the Jeremy Hunts of the world) as well as the WHO executive board and a plethora of affiliated NGO's (for example World Veterinary Association, StopTB, UNICEF).

IFMSA takes a delegation to advocate their views by giving statements at the sessions, to meet and network with world experts and to generally convey the youths enthusiasm for Global Health. As IVSA is not affiliated yet, (it's being worked on!) our medical student friends kindly let a couple of us tag along.

This began with a 4 day workshop aimed at bringing us all up to speed with the WHO's priority points as well as fine tuning our leadership and 'advocacy' skills (yep I didn't know what that was either, its 'the act of pleading for, supporting or recommending'). Despite arriving late and flying back to Edinburgh for a single day for my last neuroscience exam (please don't judge my carbon footprint I'll work on it I promise), this was indispensable and the organising committee did a really excellent job. I was in the Migrant Health Stream and so with my newfound- but comparatively little knowledge- helped to draft the statement.

Directly after this we were let loose at the real Assembly, frantically running through the maze of rooms from one event to another. The real aim of the WHA is to elect a new Director General and for the
countries to discuss 10 days’ worth of agenda points including AMR, migrant health, epidemic surveillance, polio etc. While the majority of the decision making takes place in rooms where we can say no more than our statements, there are also side events occurring all through the day. Here we could have our say, debate topics with others and meet with world experts (and get free wine and food!).

Of particular interest to us as veterinary students were the side events on AMR, Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD's), climate change and healthcare workforce.

Overall it was an inspiring experience and fantastic to be able to represent IVSA. Out with the scheduled sessions, the other students were amazing and taught me loads and the OC worked tirelessly to make it so great. IVSA and the other vet students (Sandra Stelzer and Caroline Bulstra) were hugely supportive and we all hope that in future more vet students can take part. Thank you to the Moredun Institute for making it possible for me to attend. This project was kindly funded through a Moredun Foundation Award Scheme. More information about The Moredun Foundation Award Scheme can be found at www.moredun.org.uk
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Inside Look: Being part of an IVSA Global Committee

To harness the education and interests of Veterinary Medicine students all around the world, IVSA has various Standing Committees that aim to raise awareness and share recent information and ideas. Each of our Standing Committees are run and managed by our member students. www.ivsa-committees.org

IVSA Standing Committees:

- Animal Welfare Committee (AWC)
- Standing Committee on One Health (SCOH)
- Standing Committee on Veterinary Education (SCoVE)
- Standing Committee on Wellness
- Ad Hoc Committee for IVSA Paid Positions

The IVSA Animal Welfare Committee

Meg Rawlins, The Royal Veterinary College, IVSA AWC member

The Animal Welfare Committee is one of the longest standing committees of the International Veterinary Students Association. The committee aims to promote awareness of animal welfare issues on a local, national and international scale and encourage active discussions about current animal welfare issues and how we as veterinary students can combat them.

This year my role on the committee has been within the publications team, this has involved me working with another vet student based in Vienna. We take it in turns to write the Facebook ’Week in Welfare’ posts about current animal welfare news, meaning that bi-weekly I research animal welfare issues and write a short article about it for the Facebook page. I have also written an article for the IVSA Standing Committee on One Health’s journal on how climate change is having an impact on animal welfare.
We have worked on many projects throughout the year; the ongoing one has been developing the ‘Week in Welfare’ posts, however we also started the ‘IVSA Animal Welfare Week’ an initiative which we hope will be carried on by the incoming committee for next year. We encouraged IVSA chapters from around the world to put on events to improve animal welfare, promote awareness of animal welfare issues and get people involved! The event was met with a great response with many international chapters becoming involved including IVSA Berlin, Nepal and RVC. It was outstanding to see how many chapters got involved and how different international universities came together to discuss important animal welfare topics!

I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience of been part of the IVSA AWC, it has shown me the world of the IVSA and the great things which can be achieved through unity and communication between the veterinary schools internationally. It has also made me more aware of the animal welfare issues facing not only the UK but the World and has made me realise just how much veterinary students can impact the welfare of animals and how we can advocate for positive animal welfare. I cannot recommend highly enough to anyone to take any opportunity to get involved with IVSA; whether it be on your vet school level, nationally or internationally!

*Elections for the IVSA Standing committees are usually held at the start of our academic year. No experience is required, so please don’t hesitate to apply!*
UK attendance at IVSA Thailand’s Summer Event

Accelerated RVC student Dylan Yaffy had an incredible few days in Thailand on the IVSA Thailand Summer event this month! He fed back the information below to his IVSA school representatives.

“First couple days have been great! The Thai students have been super welcoming. It’s great having locals to take you around. Yesterday I visited one of their vet schools. I also toured their small animal hospital; seeing their facilities and what they have to work with has really made me appreciate what we have at our disposal at the RVC. It’s crazy how even in Thailand some of the doctors and nurses recognise the RVC straight away. Afterwards I got to visit the second largest snake farm in the world. Although they do perform shows with the snakes they also extract venom for anti-venom production and research. We’ve just stopped off at an aquarium and now to a beach spot! I can get use to this life! ”

And on the last day...

“Today was the final day of the IVSA Thailand event. It’s been a great week. Couldn’t have asked for better hosts to show me around.

Since we last spoke, we had our cultural night where I got a taste of Korean, Taiwan, Indonesian, Philippian, Namibian, German- and of course Thai traditions! Over the past couple days we have visited 2 other vet schools. At the Chiang Mai Faculty of Veterinary Medicine I found other ties to the RVC through our discussion of the collaborative efforts of both universities with their ongoing elephant research.
Yesterday we continued our discussion at the Elephant Nature Park. This sanctuary for old and injured elephants, rescued from the logging and tourism industry, was inspiring. Talking to the founder about her passion for animal welfare has definitely been a highlight of the IVSA event.

As we all say our goodbyes, I'm heading further north into Chiang Dao National Park for a few days in the jungle!

Just came back from a temple in the middle of nowhere. Quite a change from the tourist heavy ones in the major cities. Hoping to explore some caves and waterfalls tomorrow. Heading back to Chiang Mai later in the week for a full day Thai cooking class and then a day or 2 of temple hopping before finishing off in Bangkok! I've definitely enjoyed my time in Thailand so far and can't wait for another week of adventures."

Thank you to Dylan for sharing with us his time with IVSA Thailand. We wish to say congratulations to Dylan for passing the accelerated year, we look forward to seeing you in BVetMed3 in September. Safe travels!
Upcoming events and opportunities

August

8th IVSA Asia Conference, Indonesia

August 7th-13th

33rd World Veterinary Congress, Incheon Korea

24th to the 31st of August 2017

http://wvc2017korea.com/03_regi/regi01.htm

September

WORLD AQUATIC VETERINARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE, ROMANIA
Tuesday 12 September – Thursday 14 September

Student price: €75.00
- Regular price €75
- Onsite price €100

Held in the marvellous city of Tirgu Mures located into the heart of Transylvania, Romania.

https://www.wavma.org/Aquatic-Veterinary-Educational-Meetings-Conferences-Symposia-

Workshops

Deadline for applications MSD ANIMAL HEALTH / FEDERATION OF VETERINARIANS OF EUROPE 2017 Veterinary Student Scholarship Program

15th September 2017


The aim of the 2017 scholarship program is to enhance the academic experience of 36 veterinary students (2nd and 3rd year) taking into consideration their diversity and financial needs. We encourage qualified students to submit their applications and we wish success to all the candidates!

Applicants can send the application form to stagiaire@fve.org
42nd World Small Animal Veterinary Association Congress, Copenhagen, Denmark 25th-28th September

http://www.wsava2017.com/registration-(2)/registration#.WXRvuLiGPIW

November

The 7th World Healthcare Students Symposium - Kigali

23rd November-27th November

Please register using the link http://bit.ly/WHSS2017_RegistrationForm

Learn more about the Symposium on www.whss2017.com

December

66th IVSA Symposium, South Africa

9th-19th December

66ivsasymo@gmail.com
Most UK vet schools organize a group exchange visit with a European vet school once a year (although trips aren’t limited to the EU!). This is an excellent way to show off your uni, make foreign friends, see a new city and also gain insight into how other countries train their vets! An individual exchange can count as EMS abroad. Getting in contact with your IVSA representative means that the committee can help you organize your experience overseas, and put you in touch with local vet students.
Edinburgh-Copenhagen Exchange

By Jessi Beyer

From March 17 through March 22, I had the opportunity to participate in an International Veterinary Students’ Association (IVSA) veterinary school exchange with the University of Copenhagen. Their students visited us at the University of Edinburgh at the end of January, and now it was our turn. Our Danish activities included taking a bike ride through a park filled with native deer, visiting Kopenhagen Fur and a mink farm, and touring the city’s canals on a boat.

This experience was especially interesting to me. I was a first-year vet student when I went, the youngest in the group by two years. I didn’t know any of the other participants from Edinburgh, and due to the fact that the Copenhagen students visited us during my exam revision week, I was quite unfamiliar with the students we’d be staying with, too. While this experience
and the conditions I went under warranted loads of personal growth, I also learned more than I thought I could about the veterinary profession and education system, as well. For example, Danish veterinary education includes extensive information about minks because the mink is such an important animal agriculturally to the Danes. Danish universities in general also provide much more support to pregnant students as well, since the culture there almost encourages students to have children so they won’t have to take maternity leave soon after starting a job.

Because of the positive experience I had on the IVSA exchange, my goal is to make sure that first-and second-year students are aware of the opportunity. So many of my peers didn’t know that they could attend such a thing; they thought it was limited to upper-year students or those involved with a highly niched group within the University. I believe that having an international knowledge of veterinary medicine so early on in my education helped open my eyes to the differences and possibilities within the field, something that’s hard to find by staying just within your own university.
Dublin-Brno Exchange

By Keiichiro Tazawa, IVSA Dublin Junior Representative

IVSA Dublin hosted 10 students from IVSA Brno in our group exchange in April. As I was picking up Czech students at the airport they seemed to be very excited about their week in Dublin and also meeting local students here.

We started with a Ceili night- along with Irish students and beer- where Czechs found how dynamic and fun Irish dance is!

During the exchange we took Czech students to our research farm, away from our main campus. They enjoyed this short trip to the farm and were very surprised at our state-of-the-art facilities there.

Thankfully, the weather was pretty nice with lots of sunshine so people loved being up there.

Back in our campus, they also got to see our anatomy, pathology, and public health laboratories in veterinary school and take a tour around our 133-hectre campus as well.
It goes without saying that Czech students enjoyed Dublin city tour too! We went to city centre a good number of times during their stay here to enjoy food, music, culture, and of course, alcohol! On one of the days after much of exploration we happened to find a really good pub with fantastic live Irish music which everybody loved after a long day!

On the weekend the Czech students went on a day trip to a mountain near Dublin city and a town famous for the cliff walk nearby. Blessed with beautiful sunshine, both local and Czech students enjoyed hanging out in the great outdoors!
To sum up, the week went really quickly and finished with lots of happy faces on both sides. This was despite having had issues of funding and scheduling during the exchange as we had to host during term time, near exams. The Czech students are a great group of people who are understanding, caring, independent, and above all great fun to hang out with! Considering this exchange is only the second one we have had, it has left us not only great memories but also experience that can be extremely rewarding for future group exchanges. Thanks so much!

A month later we also sent a handful of our students to Czech Republic for the Brno experience! Activities varied from a college tour to sailing on a boat, adventure playground and horse-riding on a hill whilst looking down a beautiful landscape. The weather was beautiful during our stay and needless to say everybody enjoyed the unbelievably cheap - but incredibly nice -Czech beers as well. On top of everything, the Czech students took great care of us all throughout the exchange and we would like to thank them for everything!
Liverpool-Austria Exchange 2017

By Lucy Carter, IVSA Liverpool Junior Representative

Liverpool 1\textsuperscript{st}-5\textsuperscript{th} February

This year, IVSA Liverpool partnered with IVSA Austria for an unforgettable exchange. The first part of the exchange happened in February when 12 students from the School of Veterinary Medicine in Vienna headed over to Liverpool for 5 exciting days of activities alongside their Liverpool partners.

The exchange started on Wednesday 1\textsuperscript{st} February, with a trip to a local pub and hotspot for Liverpool students, the Brookehouse, for a pint and a run through of the next 4 days of activities.

The next morning, we headed out to our Leahurst campus for tours of all of our hospitals as well as the university dairy farm. Back in Liverpool, a quick tour was conducted in round some of the most interesting areas surrounding the university campus, including the metropolitan cathedral and one of the oldest pubs in Liverpool, before attending a talk from BVA-AWF rep, Chris Laurence, discussing dangerous dog laws in the UK. Our Austrian students also had the opportunity to talk about how these laws differed in their country, which was extremely interesting for all of the Liverpool students in attendance.

Friday consisted of a city tour, which took our visitors to all the best parts of Liverpool. We went up the tower in the stunning Anglican cathedral to take in the breath-taking views over the city and beyond, headed to the docks and the Austrian students also had the opportunity to sample some Scouse, a traditional dish from Liverpool. Later on in the afternoon, we conducted a tour of our Liverpool campus and then headed to our clinical skills lab. We were aided by a first-year group who helped our visitors out with several skills, including suturing, assisted parturition and dental examinations. Everyone then went home to glam up for an evening out on the town! There’s nothing British students love more than a night
out so we showed the Austrians some of the local haunts and were even treated to some Austrian karaoke!

To help the hangovers on Saturday morning, everyone went for the breakfast at the Tavern, which has been voted the best breakfast in the UK. This was followed by a sunny walk round one of our most beautiful parks, Sefton Park. Later on, we headed to Spring city, a trampoline park which was and chips and visiting the famous music venue, the Cavern Club for some live music.

Sadly, our Austrian visitors had to leave on Sunday but this wasn’t before we had visited the local beach at Crosby and had a traditional roast dinner.

**Vienna 4th-8th June**

Once our exams had finished, our 12 Liverpool students hopped on the plane and headed to Vienna. We were greeted at the university with pizza and beer before running through the week’s schedule and heading back to our host’s homes.

On Monday morning, we began with a tour of the city, visiting all the highlights followed by a lunch of Kasekrainer, the cheese-filled sausage which is a favourite with the locals. Later on, we visited the Natural History museum before heading to Prater, a theme park in the middle of Vienna! We also went for drinks at a beach bar on the banks of the River Danube.
The next day we headed back to the Danube but this time to hire out some boats. We swam in the river, a popular activity with the locals and spent some time enjoying the glorious sunshine. After, we caught a bus up the Kahlsberg, a large hill overlooking the city – the view was incredible. We then visited Schönbrun, a huge palace in the middle of Vienna that once housed the aristocracy of Austria. That evening, we all gathered at the house of the IVSA Austria Exchange officer for a BBQ and some drinks.

Wednesday began with a pathology workshop at the university before a tour of the university where we also had the opportunity to watch the covering of a stallion. After lunch in the uni canteen, we had a free afternoon to do what we wanted. Some of us visited Nachtmarkt, a huge market, and went to a coffee house for Sachertorte, an Austrian delicacy. This was proceeded by a ‘cultural evening’ of Austrian food and dancing! Some of us then went out to local club, U4, for a 90s-themed night. Sadly the next morning, very tired and hungover, we travelled back to the UK. We had an incredible time and can’t thank IVSA Austria enough for the incredible experience. I think it’s safe to say that all involved had an amazing time and would love to return to Vienna in the future.
IVSA Nottingham – Milan exchange 2017

By Olivia Barnard-Jones, IVSA Nottingham Senior Representative

During February 2017, IVSA Nottingham hosted 10 veterinary students from Milan. Time at our vet school enabled the Milan students to see our facilities, farm and abattoir. Various sessions were provided for them, one of which was an ultrasound lesson with Professor Gary England, the Dean of Nottingham Veterinary School. This skill is not taught until the later years of the Milan veterinary course, so it was great to be able to provide them with that experience. During their stay we also shared a variety of British foods with them, not forgetting a typical cream tea, showed them the sights of Nottingham and ventured to Twycross zoo.

Then, during May 2017, 10 Nottingham veterinary students travelled to Milan where we were greeted very warmly...both by the people and the weather! We were lucky enough to spend time at their large animal campus in Lodi as well as their small animal campus in Milan itself, with activities ranging from lectures to assisting with surgical procedures. Later in the week we spent a day at Lake Como, a beautiful lake surrounded by old Italian villages, where we got to fully appreciate the views, weather and ice cream!
Throughout the trip we were inundated with typical Italian food, much to everyone’s delight, and treated with such kindness by both the students and their families.

This has definitely been an experience that we will all remember!
IVSA Bristol Exchange 2017

By Evie Hodgson, IVSA Bristol Junior Representative

Munich come to Bristol

On a rare sunny Saturday in April, 10 Munich vet students arrived in Bristol. We spent the evening drinking Old Bristolian cider and getting to know each other at The Apple, a boat on the river.

Sunday was another very sunny day, filled with the tourist sights of Bristol, from the famous Clifton Suspension Bridge, to a tour up the tower of Wills Memorial Building for a stunning view of the city. We made the most of the amazing student deals in Bristol and went for dinner at Three Brothers Burgers, another boat on the river.

We took the students to our Langford campus on Monday for a day of lectures and practicals, including a case based cardiology seminar with Dr Melanie Hezzell. The highlight of the day was definitely the parasitology practical with Andy Grist who did his best to gross out the Germans with all sorts of weird and wonderful specimens! We then spent the evening eating fish and chips and doing a pub quiz at our Student Union to give the students the full English experience!

We had a great day on the Tuesday at Bristol Zoo with their vet Rowena Killick, who gave us a tour and talked about her work there, including a gorilla C-section! After the hosts cooked for their exchange
students, we went on our obligatory night out to Lizard Lounge, the cheesy but classic place to go for Bristol vets.

Although we were all feeling a little worse for wear on Wednesday morning, we managed to power through our respiratory disease lectures before heading to get a Full English Breakfast. We then went to M Shed, a great museum all about history and life in Bristol. For our last evening together we continued with our English theme and went for a pie and a pint, or several, before they sadly left in the early hours of Thursday.

**IVSA Exchange Bristol to Munich**

After only 5 weeks we were on our way to Munich, having just finished our summer exams and ready for a holiday. Ironically, when we arrived, we were met with pouring rain, which unfortunately continued on and off all week. We went straight to the vet school from the airport for a lovely German lunch followed by a tour of the campus and hospitals and an evening in the pub sampling Munich's best beers!

Unfortunately it was still raining on Tuesday for our walking tour of the city, but armed with umbrellas we had a great morning seeing the sights and learning about the very interesting history of Munich.

The learning continued in the afternoon’s ultrasonography practical with an amazing ultrasound simulator, which was developed at Munich vet school and proved to be an invaluable resource.

We were up bright and early on Wednesday morning for a tour of the campus farm, which had everything from cows to alpacas! We then went to the specialist bird and reptile clinic for a tour and practical which was a really useful experience as we don't really have anything similar in Bristol. In the afternoon we went to the Olympia Park and had a games night at the vet school.
Finally the sun came out on Thursday, just in time for us to climb to the top of Alter Peter, a tower with a fantastic city view. We then revisited several of the sights from the walking tour now the rain had stopped and then went to the English garden to swim in the river, which was freezing! On Thursday nights, Munich vet school holds a famous party called Kabu so of course we had to go and check it out! Friday was a nice lazy day which was needed by all, so we went to a lake to sunbathe, play cards and sing with a guitar. Once we had recharged our batteries, we headed out that evening for our last night together as a group.

On Saturday morning we had an amazing Bavarian breakfast which includes weißwurst sausage and beer! We then headed to the Hirschgarten beer garden for one last drink before we sadly said our goodbyes and headed home.

We had a brilliant group of people and great itineraries planned, and the exchange was thoroughly enjoyed by all.