Welcome, one and all, to a new year at Szent István Faculty of Veterinary Science. Wherever you may have hailed from, here’s hoping it’s a productive, fun and successful year.

The Hungarian chapter of the IVSA was established here in 1951 and 64 years later we’re still going strong. We are a non-profit organization run by and for veterinary students the world over, with the aim of bringing together the international veterinary community. Through this we can pool our knowledge, experience, culture and individual perspectives and talents to enrich the standards of veterinary education for all. Simply put, the IVSA exists to “benefit the animals and people of the world”.

We achieve all of this through the promotion of fundraising, international exchanges and the meeting of our members to discuss ideas and the directions we wish to move in as representatives in our field on the international stage.

Arguably the most popular element amongst new members is our international exchange program, through which a number of our members get the opportunity to experience the lives of students from all corners of the planet first hand, whilst providing a means for them to do the same. This last year the IVSA has travelled to Indonesia, Scotland and Turkey. But more on that later.

“How can I get in on all this?” I hear you cry.

It’s easy! Simply use the email provided on this page, or, better yet, speak face to face with one of our active members (listed later in this issue).

So please, dive on in and take a look at what we’ve been up to. I sincerely hope it inspires some of you into our happy, international, family.

Luke Kinghorn
As a representative of the IVSA Hungary I made my way over to Indonesia to meet other vet students from different universities, especially from Asian countries. We shared some knowledge, experience, gave each other advice concerning internships and work experience abroad as well as we shared our cultures by cooking typical food, performing dances and demonstrating traditions.

I arrived at the airport of Surabaya where two delegates of the IVSA Indonesia were waiting for me and the other vet students. Arriving at the hotel we had dinner and a brief introduction round before moving into our rooms.

1st day:

We visited the campus of Airlangga University where we listened to a presentation about the Tropical disease Center. After a typical Indonesian lunch we were heading to the Museum Kesehatan, a museum of health. After a tour we went back to the veterinary faculty to play some games.

2nd day:

We got up early to leave to Malang where we visited the BBIB artificial Insemination center. Thereafter we had lunch, went to our accommodation and had free time where everybody rested or got ready for the cultural night. Everybody was supposed to perform something representing their country.

3rd day:

We went to Batu Secret Zoo where we almost spent the whole day.

4th day:

We left to Surabaya early in the morning to catch the flight to Denpasar, Bali. The weather was beautiful. After arrival and lunch we went to a market where we could buy souvenirs. We went to the hotel, dropped off the luggage and went straight to the beach. Later at night we went out to a club to experience Bali’s night life.

5th day:

We went to the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Udayana University to listen to a lecture about “Jalak Bali”, a local dog breed they have been trying to establish. Then we went to a well-known tourist destination called Pura Tanah Lot which is a temple that you can only reach at low tide as it is usually surrounded by water. We stayed there until the sunset which was beautiful.

As two of us were going to stay in Denpasar we had a t-shirt signing event that night.

The others left to Gilli Islands the next morning, me and a Korean girl stayed to be able to catch our flights the next day. We went to Ubud to see the rice fields instead.

All in all I had an amazing time. It was such an amazing opportunity to meet other vet students from different countries. It was a very special experience as I was the only European delegate. We were all from different cultures but one thing we definitely had in common was the dream to become a vet one day.

A big thank you to the OC. They have done an amazing job. Everything was very well organized. I hope I will be able to welcome them to Hungary one day.

I am hoping to be able to go on another exchange like that as well as host one ourselves so that hopefully more members of our IVSA chapter can be involved.

Franziska Kluge
President of IVSA Hungary
As a new member of the IVSA I was extremely excited about my first (but the IVSA’s second) venture of the semester; back to the homeland UK but up north to Edinburgh.

We arrived on Thursday afternoon, met at the airport and then it was off straight into some sightseeing. We walked around the town, taking pictures like good old tourists while soaking up our new surroundings. In the evening we met all of the Edinburgh IVSA members, ate pizza and played games.

After a much needed rest it was time to see the veterinary school on Friday. This actually turned out to be many of our favourite day. It was obvious why the university is ranked so highly in the world; brand new facilities, highly accredited professors and an onsite equine and farm clinic (along with a small animal hospital equipped with an MRI and CT scanner).

We started off the day listening to a presentation from one of the lecturers about what is it like to be a farm vet in England, followed by a sheep handling practical. The university has its very own sheep barn used for students to gain practice and acquire good handling and lambing skills. After a demonstration from the sheep keeper we were let loose into the pens. It was so much fun and resulted in being covered in grime and wool.

A tour followed which enabled us to see the structure of the course and how the students timetables are structured etc. We learned that our subjects are not taught in sync either i.e. the students at Edinburgh learn all of the anatomy of the dog in the first semester of the first year!

After the tour we headed to a student’s house where had food and drinks before hitting Edinburgh town. The bars were fantastic resulting in our only leaving 4am Saturday morning.

While nursing sores head on Saturday we climbed Arthur’s seat, a quintessentially toursty thing to do. The views were amazing and it was well worth the hike. We had a bit of freedom on Saturday to explore the town and Saturday night was filled with again more food, drinks and this time, card games.

Sunday was a full day-long Highland Tour with a Scottish driver who refuted all of the myths about Scotland about places and people such as William Wallace. He was fun and an excellent tour guide.

As Sunday was our last night we spent it at the student union with the Edinburgh guys just relaxing and chatting. It was honestly sad to say goodbye to them but nice to know that it was only a few weeks before we returned the favour and hosted them.

Lucy Robson
PR & Activities
Each year the entire school turns out for International Day. Coinciding with the Bos/Bovina Major competition (you’ll hear more on that later in the year, but not here I’m afraid) it is perhaps a day most known for the daytime drinking and associated revelry that goes hand-in-hand with such things.

But, whilst we at the IVSA love a good drink and big dose of banter it is, for us especially, also about bringing together the international community within our own school. It is about showing off the individual flair and energy that each and every nationality amongst us brings to life here in Budapest and gives you the opportunity to explore those you may never have come across before.

Each represented country takes to the on-campus park, setting up a stall to display the best of the food, drink and entertainment they have to offer. This last year saw everything from sweet French treats to spiced insects and everything in between (including, of course, a good pot of Hungarian goulash!).

It was a colourful scene as face-paints flew wild, adorning the faces of many with the flags of their own nations, as well as of nations they discovered throughout the day. All in all, a real carnival atmosphere full of merriment.

For us at the IVSA it was also a chance to interact with the student body at large, with the hopes of charming a few fresh members into the ranks and, as you can see from the photo, charm is something we have barrels of here at the IVSA.

You may also notice some of the baked goodies we brought to the show this year, and that doesn’t start or end with International Day. As a fundraising tool we have found the use of bake-sales invaluable in ensuring our exchanges, and any other events, re somewhat covered.

As simple as it may sound, the bake-sales provide a really fun, and delicious, interface between ourselves and other students (who doesn’t like cake?!?) as well as providing a great bit of group entertainment in the sharing of our successes (to varying degrees) in the kitchen. Held at several times throughout the semester, even you don’t want to get involved I defy you to resist the sugary delights we put on show in the Student Union.

Luke Kinghorn
Publications Officer
MEETING IVSA ISTANBUL

While I was on vacation in Istanbul, Turkey I visited the veterinary faculty, approximately one hour out of the city center. After a warm welcome the president of the IVSA in Istanbul showed me around the campus, I tried some Turkish tea and met some other students who were also members of their chapter. After a nice lunch I made my way back to the city. IVSA is just great as you just contact students at other universities and as you belong to the same “family” they treat you as a friend and are happy to help in any way they can.

Franziska Kluge
President IVSA Hungary

UPCOMING EVENTS

There's plenty going still this year, so here's some dates you'll want for your diary...

IVSA Members:

- IVSA 64th Taiwan Winter Symposium: Jan. 1st, 2016. More info@ http://www.ivsa.org/events/337

Open to all:


- BSAVA Scottish Congress: Sept. 4th-6th. Edinburgh, UK. More info@ https://www.bsava.com/Congress/ScottishCongress.aspx
MEET THE WHOLE TEAM

FRANZISKA KLUGE
IVSA PRESIDENT

“Being a member of the IVSA has been a great experience. Being able to meet other vet students wherever I go is amazing. We’re like a big family. I am hoping to be able to get more people involved at our university.”

MARIALENA AVRATOLGOU
IVSA VICE PRESIDENT

VYTAUTAS EDGARAS MARKEVICIUS
IVSA VICE PRESIDENT

ROBIN LECLERC
ENVIROMENTAL OFFICER

MYLÈNE MARIAGE
TREASURER

LILY FRASER
IT

YASMIN FRANKO
IT

LUKE KINGHORN
NEWSLETTER

LUCY ROBSON
PR & ACTIVITES

CHARLIE RAMSEY-STAGG
PR & ACTIVITES

BERO GEHL
PUBLIC HEALTH MANAGER

& that’s all folks!

Well, that’s all for this issue but please, keep an eye out for these friendly faces to find out more.
Üdvözöljük a Szent István Egyetemen a tavaszi félévben.

Translation by Ludányi András