



Here we are again, at the end of another exciting and successful year in the equine department. End of year results are now compiled and we trust that all students will have seen their own results through UCLan's "see my data" system. If not, please contact one of the tutors.

We had some excellent results this year, with 29 graduates in total. A record seven students achieved first class honours degrees, and two achieved merits in the Foundation Degrees. We are really pleased to see that an overwhelming majority of students succeeded in their award.

The highest achieving students are honoured at graduation. This year's top students are shown in plates one to three below.



Plate one: Oakhill Veterinary Centre Award for Top BSc (Hons) Equine Science student: Natalie Owen



Plate two: Millrowes Anouska Award for Top BA (Hons) Equestrian Management and Development student:

**Ruth Ormerod** 



Plate three: Sean McGuinness Award for best practical student: Laura Peters



Plate four: A group of some of our graduands

#### **Research Developments**

Research is a strong focus of the college due to its importance to the development of current knowledge. The equine students and staff consistently achieve unrivalled success in this field. Here is a snippet of what our students have been getting up to (plates five – nine):





Plate five: Laura Peters presents her research at the Altech-Hartpury Conference



Plate six: Natalie Owen and Lucy Chadwick also present their research at the Altech-Harpury Conference; seen here questionning a speaker.



Plate seven: Heather Cameron-Whytock and Clare O'Donnell present their research at the British Society of Animal Science conference in Dublin (seen here with MSc student Emily Catherall)



Plate eight: MSc students help at the Equine Cultures in Transition Conference (ECIT) in Leeds.



Plate nine: Staff research into rider psychology was presented at the ECIT Conference in Leeds

# PhD Candidate Heather Cameron-Whytock addresses the world's eventing safety leaders!

Heather is in the final year of her PhD, which is investigating risks in eventing. Having heard about her work, the Federation Equestrian Internationale flew her to Switzerland to share her findings at the annual eventing risk management seminar!

#### **Employer and Industry Engagement Event**

For the first time, we hosted an employer and industry engagement event during induction week this year (plate ten). It was particularly good to see four of our graduates at this event. Charlotte Jones –Jimmy Moffatt Racing; Emily Dodman - Naylors Equestrian; Bronte Archer – Equimulsion; Emily Massey – Withenslack Hall Farm Equestrian / Young Equestrian Leaders Award.





Plate ten: Employer and Industry Engagement Event 2018

This will rerun next year during induction week – all students invited. More details to follow.

# Myerscough's British Universities and College Sport (BUCS) Equestrian Teams

Myerscough's Equestrian teams (plates eleven and twelve) continued to challenge for equestrian dominance in the North West. Riders tried out for the two teams in September and then trained on a weekly basis. The team also hosted two competitions using the College horses and facilities.



Plate eleven: BUCS Teams 2017-2018

Selection trials for next years' teams will start early in semester one! Please follow the group's Facebook page for more updates.



Plate twelve: Myerscough BUCS Equestrian
Team Facebook page

#### **New MSc Equine Science started!**

Our new MSc Equine Science course started for the first time this year (plate thirteen). This course is designed for graduates from the BSc or BA. The programme is one quite unique compared to other MScs, combining social sciences with biological sciences. The pinnacle of the course is the MSc Thesis. This year's students are currently completing their projects, which address an exciting range of questions, including:-

- How do horses aid humans during bereavement?
- How do therapy horses respond to autistic child riders?
- How does pregnancy affect zebra herd dynamics?
- Is there a difference in the attitudes of people to eating horsemeat within different counties?



Plate thirteen: MSc Equine Science

It is not too late to apply for this year for anyone who has already completed their degree!



#### **Timetables**

Provisional timetables are attached (1st years) or on Canvas (returning students). Please note these are still provisional – you need to check them online just before you start back.

#### Dates for your diaries

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September: Employer and Industry Engagement Event, plus update course tutorial meetings for all returning students.

Please keep this date clear in your diaries – it will give you a chance to catch up with your course tutors before lessons start the following week.

# Saturday 29th September: Equine Behaviour Forum Scientific Seminar

The 2018 Seminar will be held at Myerscough from 10.30 am – 4.30 pm.

#### Speakers:

Rachel Bedingfield from Connection Training will be continuing an exploration of emotion with a talk amplifying the work of Jaak Panksepp and other neuroscientists along with equine ethology and expression of emotions. She will go on to show the relevance of this to helping your horse to feel calm, happy and playful whilst learning.

Dr Andrew Hemmings, Principal Lecturer in Animal Science, head of Academic Centre-Equine Management and Science Royal Agricultural University Cirencester, will talk about a strategic approach to training and management using behavioural indicators of brain activity.

Justine Harrison will be talking about her experiences as an Equine Behaviourist. Justine is a fully certified member of the International Association of Animal Behaviour Consultants (IAABC) and an Accredited Animal Behaviourist with the Animal Behaviour and Training Council.

Myerscough students and staff free!

Trips

Vienna 14th - 17th March

To include:-

**B&B** in dormitories

Flights (hand luggage only)

Vet school visit

Spanish Riding School visit, to include tour, morning exercise and performance (plate fourteen).

Some additional costs (transport / food) will need to be paid.

Approximate price £329-40; Deposit £125 per person. Prices may change a little depending on numbers and flights!



Plate fourteen: Spanish Riding School

Email Rachel Thomas <a href="mailto:rthomas@myerscough.ac.uk">rthomas@myerscough.ac.uk</a> to express your interest.

#### **Enrolment**

It is vital that you complete enrolment promptly as soon as you are sent the information. New students – please check the "clutter" box on the email you used to apply (sometimes the emails get lost here).



#### Horse updates:

The college horses are now enjoying their well earnt summer break. Most of the loan horses return to their owners for the vacation, whilst the college horses are turned out 24:7 in mini herds to give them a chance to "be horses" for a while (plate fifteen).



Plate fiftenn: College horses happily cantering to their summer vacation!

The yard continuously monitor the health and wellbeing of the horses who work so hard for us. This year, it was recognised that the work was getting a bit too much for college favourite Jack Cob, so he was retired to live out his senior years with Charlotte Brigden (plate sixteen).



Plate sixteen: Jack Cob retires!

The equine team hope you have a wonderful summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you all well rested and full of enthusiasm for your studies.

Best of Luck to all to our Class 2018! Please keep us informed with your progress and news.

Make sure you keep an eye on bulletin boards and the HE Equine Facebook page for updates.

#### **HE Equine Team**

#### Susan Schofield

(sschofield@myerscough.ac.uk)

Course tutor year 1

#### **Rachel Thomas**

(rthomas@myerscough.ac.uk)

Course tutor year 2

#### **Danielle Flood**

(dflood@myerscough.ac.uk) Course tutor year 3

Rachel White (rwhite@myerscough.ac.uk)

Course tutor MSc

Nichola Bradshaw

(nbradshaw@myerscough.ac.uk)

**Charlotte Brigden** 

(cbrigden@myerscough.ac.uk)

Assistant Head of Equine (HE



#### **Financial Support for HE students**

#### **Myerscough College Scholarships**

Myerscough applicants who demonstrate experience and can promote excellence in their subject may be eligible for financial support from a Myerscough College scholarship.

20 scholarships are available for first year students in the following subject areas:

- Applicants from targeted under-represented groups (white males from disadvantaged areas, BME groups and students with a learning difficulty or disability)
- Applicants who promote excellence in Agriculture and Horticulture (to support development of the talent pool in our most traditional land-based subjects)
- Applicants who promote excellence in STEM subjects (animal or plant sciences, agricultural engineering or motorsports engineering)
- Applicants who promote excellence in Sport (this may be sports, golf, equine or motorsports)
- Applicants who promote excellence in Creative Design (specifically Floral Design and Location Photography)

Payment will be made in two instalments (before Christmas and at the end of successful completion of the first year) ensuring the student has not withdrawn or been suspended from study and has over 90% attendance and passed all modules sat at June assessment boards. Instalments will be used to clear any outstanding fees on account.

#### **Myerscough College Bursaries:**

