



**Doug Ross Overseas Travel & Study Award - Attendance at the International Pig Veterinary Society Congress – Canada**

APL Project 2010/4455

2010

Charles Sturt University

Groat J.

Ms Jill Groat of Charles Sturt University won the 2010 Doug Ross Overseas Travel & Study Award. This award included attendance at two conferences, a meeting of the Australian Pig Veterinarians (APV; a special interest group of the Australian Veterinary Association) and the International Pig Veterinary Science (IPVS) Congress, in Vancouver, Canada.

The IPVS congress is held every two years and is the major international meeting on pig health. It draws veterinarians from all over the world. Approximately 2,700 delegates attended. There were six concurrent streams (including nutrition, reproduction, and a stream entirely dedicated to Porcine Circovirus) covering major research and practical applications of veterinary medicine. The meeting presented around 850 posters and 300 oral presentations with four poster viewing sessions and nine oral presentation sessions.

In addition to the oral sessions there was a key note presentation by David Fraser on Animal welfare and eight lead speakers, with papers presented by Douglas Burrin on the role of nutrition in weanling pig health, Caroline Fossum on PCV2 and Steven McOrist on Ileitis.

The preconference meeting was a highlight for Jill as she was able to meet vets, academics and industry representatives associated with the Australian pig industry. Jill had not attended a conference before so it was an amazing experience for her to travel to Canada and attend one of such magnitude. Jill's interest in pursuing a career in the pig industry has been enhanced through her experiences at the conference and she's looking forward to attending the next IPVS in South Korea, as a vet rather than a student.