



Registration Brochure

20 – 22 November 2023 | *Novotel Sydney Central*

[Visit the UPAV Conference Website](#)



Registrations now open | [click here](#) to secure your spot!



Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Gadigal and other Traditional Custodians of the lands on which this conference takes place. We pay respect to their Elders' past and present and extend that respect to all First Nations peoples as knowledge holders with continuing connections to land, place, waters and community.

UPAV President Welcome

Welcome to the 2023 UPAV Annual Conference, held at the Novotel Sydney Central from Monday 20 – Wednesday 22 November.

This year we will host three days of high-quality education for veterinarians and vet nurses interested in birds, small mammals and reptiles. The conference has always been a great opportunity for networking as well as providing current information of diagnostics, therapeutics, surgery and medicine of this group of diverse pets.

We are excited and honoured to welcome back to Australia Dr Todd Driggers, avian and exotic animal specialist from Arizona as our international keynote speaker this year. Todd is a 1994 graduate Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine. He is a past-president of the Association of Exotic Mammal Veterinarians and president for the Oasis Sanctuary that stewards over 800 birds. In 1995, he started Arizona's first exclusive exotic animal practice. Currently, he has both a mobile and stationary four doctor practice named "The Avian and Exotic Animal Clinic of Arizona". He was a 2016 and 2022 finalist for the Ted Lafeber Practitioner of the Year. Todd has spoken internationally and has authored several chapters in the Veterinary Clinics of North America Exotic Animal Practice. He advocates for ethical stewardship of exotic animal care and for animal welfare and it is an absolute privilege to have Todd back.

Our convener Tegan Stephens has assembled a fantastic line up of speakers and topics, masterclasses and trade exhibitors. A full day program for nurses is also provided on Monday.

We have excellent support from the trade, so don't forget to visit their stands and support those who help make the conference a success. The scheduled breaks and cocktail happy hour are a great time to catch up with colleagues and make new friends. The dinner this year will be unique, and I guarantee you will not have experienced anything like it before. UPAV is at the cutting edge of entertainment, as always!

I look forward to attending another great UPAV Conference. See you there!

Dr Deborah Monks
UPAV President

About Unusual Pet and Avian Veterinarians

The Unusual Pet and Avian Veterinarians Group was formed in 2013, bringing together two separate veterinary groups which shared similar interests. The group promotes discussion about the medicine and surgery of pet species other than dogs and cats such as lizards, birds, turtles, frogs, native Australian mammals, rabbits, guinea pigs, rats and mice, ferrets and even tarantulas. With changes in licensing laws and people’s lifestyles, the choice of family pet might not be a dog or cat, but one of another dozen species. The increase in ownership of unusual pets has resulted in a corresponding need for veterinarians to feel competent with the treatment of pets not traditionally covered in the undergraduate curriculum.

[Visit the UPAV Conference Website](#)

Monday 20 November 2023

7.30am - 8.15am	Conference Registration
8.15am - 8.30pm	Conference Welcome
8.30am - 5.30pm	Nurses Stream
8.30am - 5.30pm	Masterclass Series
7.30am - 5.30pm	Exhibition and Trade
7.00pm - Late	Conference Dinner

Tuesday 21 November 2023

8.00am - 8.30am	Conference Registration
8.30am - 5.30pm	Scientific Program
7.30am - 5.30pm	Exhibition and Trade
5.30pm - 7.30pm	Cocktail Function

Wednesday 22 November 2023

8.00am - 8.30am	Conference Registration
8.30am - 5.30pm	Scientific Program
7.30am - 5.30pm	Exhibition and Trade
5.30pm - 6.30pm	Farewell Drinks



Top 3 reasons to come to the Conference

- 3 days of science programs and masterclasses expertly curated by our scientific convenors
- The opportunity to network with peers and industry in a collegial and supportive environment
- A trade and industry show featuring many of your suppliers where you can find out about the latest products and innovations!

Industry Exhibition

The industry exhibition will be held exclusively on the first floor of the Novotel Sydney Central.

The exhibition will be the networking hub of the conference, giving delegates the opportunity for direct contact with sponsors and exhibitors alike. Refreshment breaks from Monday morning to Wednesday evening will be held in the exhibition, including a cocktail evening drinks on Tuesday night and farewell drinks on Wednesday.

All delegates receive complimentary access to the industry exhibition, make the most of the opportunity to meet and mingle with companies from across Australia, keep up to date with the latest products and services.



Location

Sydney, Australia

Australia's harbourside city of Sydney capital of New South Wales and one of Australia's largest cities, with an enviable reputation as one of the world's most beautiful and livable cities. Best known for its harbourfront Sydney Opera House, with the arched Harbour Bridge and esteemed Royal Botanic Garden nearby.

Sydney Airport is located just 13 minutes by train from the city. Airport Link offers a fast and convenient way to reach the city and suburbs, with trains running approximately every 10 minutes. To use this service, you will need to purchase an Opal Card. For more information, including fares, maps, timetable changes and travel planners, see the Transport for NSW website - <https://transportnsw>.

Download the official Sydney travel app <https://transportnsw.info/apps>

<http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/explore>

Venue

Novotel Sydney Central

Settle in to 4.5-star comfort at Novotel Sydney Central hotel, just a short walk from Darling Harbour entertainment and CBD shopping. Minimalist contemporary style and warm colours make your room an inner-city haven - and many come with a balcony. Unwind after work or shopping in the rooftop pool or on the garden terrace, an urban oasis at Novotel.

While it may have a convenient city centre location, Novotel Sydney Central is situated in a quiet cul-de-sac, allowing guests easy access to the city, and at the same time, providing a peaceful haven away from the hustle and bustle. Guests staying at the hotel within these serviced apartments in Sydney are in walking distance of many of the city's major attractions, including Darling Harbour and Cockle Bay Wharf, as well as a range of excellent restaurants, shops and bars.

<https://www.novotelsydneycentral.com.au/>



International Keynote Speaker – Dr Todd Driggers



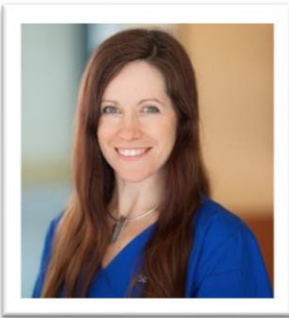
Dr Todd Eric Driggers is a 1994 graduate Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine. He is a past-president of the Association of Exotic Mammal Veterinarians and president for the Oasis Sanctuary that stewards over 800 birds. After graduating, he interned at the Avian and Exotic Animal Clinic in Indianapolis. In 1995, he started Arizona’s first exclusive exotic animal practice. Currently, he has both a mobile and stationary four doctor practice named The Avian and Exotic Animal Clinic of Arizona”. He was a 2016 and 2022 finalist for the Ted Lafeber Practitioner of the Year.

He has spoken internationally Association of Avian Veterinary Conferences (AAV and AAVAC), Association of Reptilian and Amphibian Veterinarians (ARAV) and the Association of Exotic Mammal Veterinarian Veterinary Conferences and Unusual Pet Australian Veterinary conferences. He has authored several chapters in the Veterinary Clinics of North America Exotic Animal Practice and given webinars. He advocates for ethical stewardship of exotic animal care and for animal welfare.

Dr Driggers is involved in many extracurricular activities, including herping, birding, and photography. He raised and distributed over \$75,000 for Australian wildlife carers’ and DVM’s during the fires and is licensed to practice in 3 Australian territories and the state of Arizona. He has the medical director for mission trips to the Dominican Republic through Food for the Hungry for 14 years overseeing medical, dental, vision, and veterinary practice in a rural setting.

Dr Driggers is a busy father of three and husband to Heather, his high school girlfriend (31 years and counting).

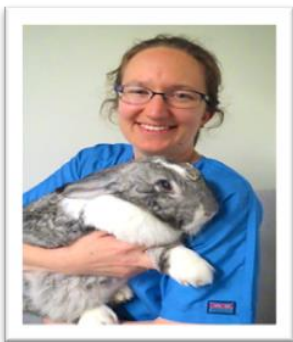
Masterclass Speakers



Dr Susan Beths
Advanced Small Mammal Analgesia.
Big feelings in small mammals, how can we help?



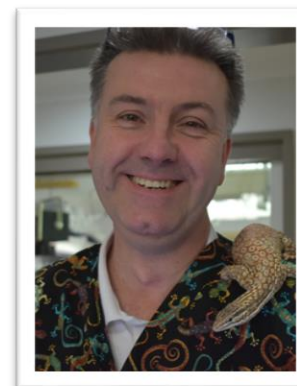
Dr Thierry Beths
Advanced Small Mammal Analgesia.
Big feelings in small mammals, how can we help?



Dr Lizzie Selby
Exotics Management Masterclass
The Capybara in the room: why we should talk about
business and leadership at UPAV conferences!



Dr Michael Powell
Exotics Management Masterclass
The hard reality of soft skills: how targeted non-
technical competency development supports
professional fulfilment and career longevity.



Dr Shane Simpson
Let's Talk About Dragons!
A Roundtable Masterclass about Central Bearded
Dragons

Thank you to our 2023 Nurses Stream Speakers

Would you like to enhance your knowledge and skill in nursing procedures commonly required for unusual pets and birds? Then join your nursing colleagues for a true peer conference day, run by nurses, for nurses. The full day will encompass presentations from experienced nurses from a number of unusual pet, avian and wildlife fields and some case studies from your peers.



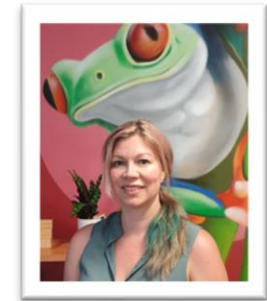
- Claire Deamer



- Gretel Cornell



- Lizzie Selby



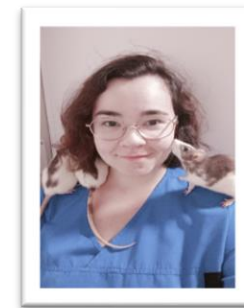
- Sam Lovett



- Emmajane Newton



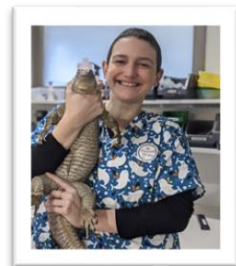
- Haley Bradshaw



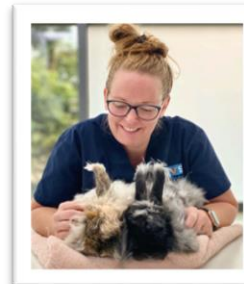
- Madeline O'Connor



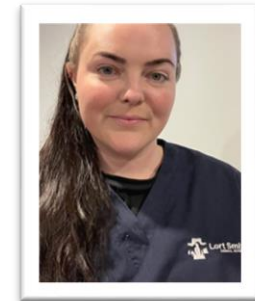
- Jayde Crispo



- Leonie Hyslop



- Megan Walmsley

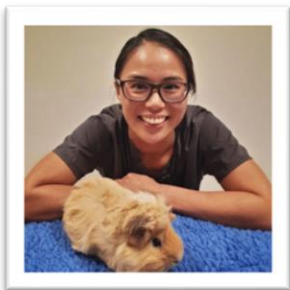


- Sami Mosley

Thank you to our 2023 Speakers



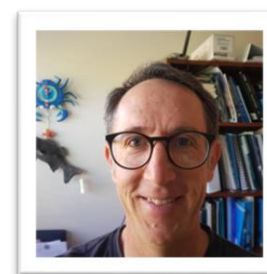
- Alex Rosenwax



- Jo Sheen



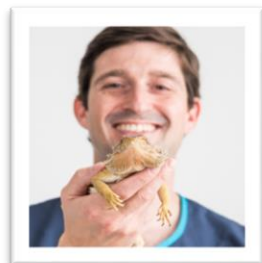
- Lizzie Selby



- Matt Landos



- Anne Fowler



- Joshua Llinas



- Lucinda Lam



- Michelle
Campbell-Ward



- Izidora Sladakovic



- Leanne Yeung



- Luke Bradley

Thank you to our 2023 Speakers



- Melinda Cowan



- Rebecca Teoh



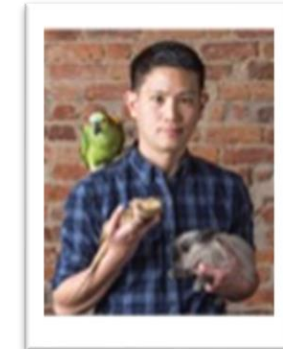
- Sasha Herbert



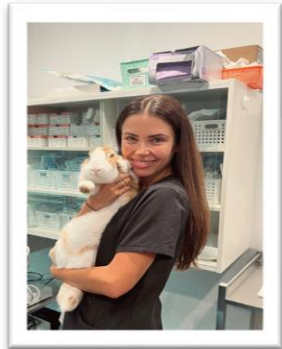
- Nicole Ye



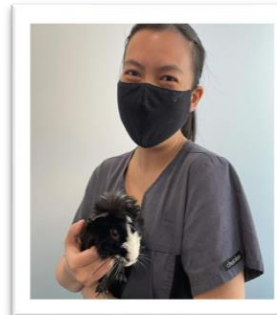
- Robert Johnson



- Shangzhe Xie



- Olivia Clarke



- Sang Tran



- Thomas Vowell

Monday, 20 November:

Masterclass Program
Nurses Stream

Tuesday 21 November & Wednesday 22 November:

Veterinary Stream

[Click here](#) to view the full UPAV Conference Program

Social Program

Relax and unwind after a big day of presentations with these exciting collegial social events, tickets are available for purchase when registering online.

Conference Dinner

Monday, 20 November

Time: 6:30pm – Late

Location: [Olio Restaurant](#), The Old Rum Store

Address: Level 2/2-10 Kensington St, Chippendale NSW 2008

Join us for modern Sicilian cuisine from award-winning chef Lino Sauro

Ticket includes 3 course sit down dinner, drinks and entertainment. An evening not to be missed!

\$150 per ticket for delegates and partners. \$210 for non-delegates.

Cocktail Evening

Tuesday, 21 November

Time: 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Exhibition Area, Novotel Sydney Central

Please join us for a relaxing evening of collegiality and catching up with new and old friends.

Also make the most of this opportunity to meet and mingle with companies from across Australia, keep up to date with the latest products and services.

Includes substantial canapes and drinks.

\$88 per ticket for delegates and partners. \$120 for non-delegates.

Farewell Drinks

Wednesday, 22 November

5:30pm - 6:30pm

Novotel Sydney Central

Following the last sessions of the conference, join us for our final farewell drinks at the hotel bar.

Not included in registration. Cash bar available.

Excursion

Monday 20 November | 3.30pm – 5.30pm

SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium **or** WILD LIFE Sydney Zoo

(Optional, must register if attending. Included in registration ticket cost)

Location: [Darling Harbour](#)

Address: 1-5 Wheat Rd, Sydney NSW 2000

Head to the conference registration desk located on level one exhibition area of the Novotel Sydney Central at 3pm during the afternoon tea break and collect your ticket and take away afternoon tea. From the hotel make your way down to Darling Harbour and explore either the SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium or WILD LIFE Sydney Zoo at your leisure.

Registration options & pricing

Full Conference Registration

Includes:

- Attendance at scientific sessions (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)
- Admittance to industry trade (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)
- Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)
- Digital conference proceedings

**Does not include social events. Conference Dinner and Cocktail evening tickets can be purchased on top of full week or day registrations.*

Day Registration

Includes:

- Attendance at scientific sessions (on nominated day/s only)
- Admittance to industry trade (on nominated day/s only)
- Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea (on nominated day/s only)
- Digital conference proceedings

**Does not include social events. Conference Dinner and Cocktail evening tickets can be purchased on top of full week or day registrations.*

Practice Managers and Vet Nurses can join the Australian Veterinary Association as Associate Members to receive a member discount at AVA CPD Conferences. Contact members@ava.com.au or call 1300 137 309 to join now.

	Early Bird Before 23 October 2023 Save \$150*	Standard Rate From 24 October 2023
Full Registrations (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday)		
UPAV Member	\$900	\$1,050
AVA Member	\$1,020	\$1,170
AVA Recent Graduate Member**	\$500	\$650
AVA Student Member	\$450	\$600
Non-Member	\$2,040	\$2,340
Day Registration		
UPAV Member	\$395 per day	
AVA Member	\$445 per day	
AVA Recent Graduate Member**	\$265 per day	
AVA Student Member	\$250 per day	
Non-Member	\$890 per day	
Nurses Day Registration (Monday)		
AVA Member (Associate)	\$180	\$220
VNCA Member	\$200	\$240
Non-Member	\$360	\$440
Exhibition Only Registration		
UPAV / AVA Member	-	\$100 per day
Non-Member	-	\$200 per day
Accompanying Guests		
Adult	-	\$240
Child	-	\$120
Social Tickets		
	Delegate & Partners	Non-Delegate
Conference Dinner - Monday, 20 November 2023	\$150	\$210
Cocktail Evening - Tuesday, 21 November 2023	\$88	\$120

*Saving based of special interest group and AVA Member pricing.

**New graduates are up to 3 years out.

Registration options & pricing

Nurses Day Registration Includes:

- Attendance at nurses stream (Monday, 20 November)
- Admittance to industry exhibition (Monday, 20 November)
- Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea (Monday, 20 November)
- Electronic copy of proceedings

**Does not include social events. Conference Dinner and Cocktail evening tickets can be purchased on top of nurses day registration.*

Exhibition Only Registration Includes:

Admittance to the industry exhibition is on the nominated day/s only during the following hours.

Monday, 20 November	10:00am – 5:30pm
Tuesday, 21 November	10:00am – 5:30pm
Wednesday, 22 November	10:00am – 5:30pm

Please contact events@ava.com.au for a link to register an Exhibition Only ticket.

**Exhibition only registration does not include access to scientific sessions, social events or masterclasses.*

Accompanying Guest Registration Includes:

Accompanying guests must be accompanied by a registered delegate.

- Accompanying guest's name badge
- Morning tea, lunch and afternoon (Monday, 20– Wednesday, 22 November 2023)

** Does not include access to scientific sessions, social events or masterclasses.*

Please contact events@ava.com.au for a link to register an Accompanying Guest.

Carer's Pass

We are delighted to announce we will once again provide a complimentary Carer's Pass for delegates attending all AVA conferences and events. This will give the carer access to the conference, exhibition and sessions and allows parents/delegates nursing children to be provided with assistance. The pass does not include catering for carers. To request a pass please contact events@ava.com.au. There is no need to register online. Your Carer's Pass can be collected at the registration desk upon arrival.

General Information

Program

All speakers and sessions were confirmed and correct at the time of printing. The AVA reserves the right to amend the program details as required. For program updates visit the 'program' page of the conference website. The views and advice offered by speakers are their own views and may not represent those of the AVA.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be received in writing to the Conference Secretariat at events@ava.com.au by Monday 23 October 2023. Cancellations received prior to this date will receive a full refund minus \$150 administration fee. Cancellations after this date will not be refunded. Substitute delegates will be accepted.

Privacy Policy

The Australian Veterinary Association Ltd (AVA) supports good privacy practice and aims to manage personal information in an open and transparent way. This policy sets out how the AVA aims to comply with the Privacy Act 1998 (Act) and the Australian Privacy Principles (APP's) which came into force on 12 March 2014. View AVA Privacy Policy or visit www.ava.com.au/privacy-policy. The AVA takes photos of this event, by attending you give permission to use images taken at the conference, as well as any written comments on our evaluation forms in advertising and promoting the AVA.

Contact

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