

InfoMania



April 2009

FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR :

In this issue we feature the bicentenary of Darwin's birth (and his famous publication), metadata specialist Amelia Breytenbach describes her visits to digitization projects in London, and we continue conversing with Sir Arnold.

One of the most important events in the Library and Faculty calendar this year is the Naming Ceremony of the Library. From 5th May the Library will be known as the Jotello F. Soga Library. Read more about how we will honour the first South African to qualify as a veterinary surgeon in this issue.

Our visit to the Onderstepoort Primary School is an example of our community engagement, helping to improve their information sources collection and helping to raise awareness of the role of the veterinarian and veterinary nurse.

We hope you will find this news from your library enjoyable and informative.

Tertia Coetsee (Editor)

COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES (Veterinary Science Library)

Erica van der Westhuizen

With red balloons left over from our Valentine's Day we visited the nearby Onderstepoort Primary School in February this year.

The learners there range from pre-school to Grade 7.

Johannes Moropotli and Joe Sindane chatted to the children about where we came from and why we were visiting them with books and sweets.

We made good use of the closing down sale at Fascination Books, with children's books and colouring and puzzle books for each class. A donation sticker was pasted in each book.



The photo shows Johannes, Erica, teacher Constance Lekhuleng and Joe with the pre-school class



From l. to r. Joe, Principal Shoki Matlejoane, Erica, Marguerite and Johannes – after delivering books, sweets and drawing materials to the Onderstepoort Primary School, February 2009

We will follow up this visit with a tour of the Faculty and the library for the learners and their teachers, next month.

In this way we are supporting the Faculty's goal of making learners in the rural areas more aware of the important role of the veterinarian and veterinary nurse in promoting human and animal health.



Onderstepoort School learners, with books donated by Veterinary Science Library staff

For further photos visit our website:
<http://www.ais.up.ac.za/vet/documents/opprimary2009a.ppt>

Anyone who is interested in supporting this project is welcome to contact the Veterinary Science Library at 012 529 8008 or Antoinette.lourens@up.ac.za

Visits to Libraries, London, 18-19 September 2008 and the International Dublin Core Conference, Berlin, Germany, 23-25 September 2008

Amelia Breytenbach

During September 2008 I had the privilege of visiting libraries in London and also attending the International Dublin Core Conference in Berlin, Germany, 23-25 September 2008.

London, England (18-19 September 2008)

The first library I visited was the Wellcome Library, one of the most interesting libraries I have ever experienced. The library collections have their origins in the collecting activities of Sir Henry Wellcome (1853-1936). He was an entrepreneur, philanthropist, patron of science and archaeologist. He was also one of the world's greatest collectors. The Library has over



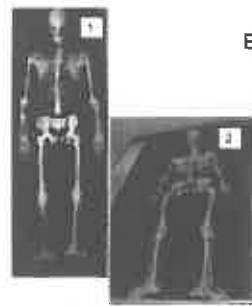
Ms Christy Henshaw, Mr Dave Thompson and Amelia

2.5 million items spanning 3000 years and covering all cultures and subjects ranging from anthropology and alternative medicine to science, veterinary science and surgical practice. The Virtual library uses the "Uncover" software to expose users to the digital material. Some of the items that can be seen in the Virtual library are the first X-rays, taken in 1895 by Wilhelm Roentgen, a recording of Florence Nightingale's voice and an ancient Egyptian medical prescription written on papyrus.

Ms Christy Henshaw, the digitization project manager, and Mr Dave Thompson, the digital curator of the Wellcome Library were the two contact persons for a scheduled meeting. They are currently undergoing a digitisation programme, and thus also still fairly new in some ways to digitisation. It was very interesting to see how they are approaching their projects. The topic of discussion during the meeting was digital curation and metadata. The primary objective of the Wellcome Library is to increase access to its collections, although

the creation of digital surrogates can also be seen as a way of helping preserve the original object but this is not the key driver for digitization. An interesting aspect they work with is digital wills. Digital wills are about documenting the whereabouts of one's digital material and what your wishes are in regard to it. The creator of digital personal and professional papers must think about the future value of these materials as research materials. They also encourage people to talk to the Library about transferring material to digital archives as they no longer use it on a daily basis. Currently 160 000 images are available through the Web at the Wellcome Library's website. All items digitised are freely available to all.

Skeletons Exhibition at Wellcome



Each skeleton has its own story to tell – through metadata

A visit to the Skeleton exhibition in the Wellcome Library was a wonderful experience. Twenty-six skeletons from the Museum of London were on display. This exhibition uncovers the bones of generations of Londoners that have been discovered as the continuous redevelopment of the city streets and roads continues. Each has its own tale to tell, and collectively they uncover 2000 years of history, increasing our understanding of how Londoners once lived, and providing insights into the health, diet, diseases and lifestyle of the deceased.

My next meeting was at the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Trust Library in London where I met Claire Boulton (Head of the library) and her team. They have a historical book and journal collection that has been formed from the many gifts and donations from veterinarians and animal health workers through the years. The earliest book in the collection is from 1514, the Latin *Libri de re rustica* (Book on country life). The earliest purely veterinary work is from 1528, the *Ars Veterinaria* of Vegetius Renuatus.- the subject is on distempers of horses. As use and age has an impact on the paper and bindings they started a project named: "Adopt a book" to get some money to protect and preserve the historical collection. The cost of preserving one book costs between £25 and £250. At this stage the historical books are stored in wood cabinets on a separate floor where they are protected from dust and sunshine. Another interesting thing about the Library is their classification system. Books are shelved using the Barnard Classification. The system works with letters of the alphabet and not numbers like the Dewey Decimal Classification system we use. The numbers are very short and the subject groupings are more refined than the DDC system.

A guided tour of the British Library was another highlight. The collection includes over 150 million items stored on over 625 km of shelves. The British Library adds some 3 million items every year.

The core of the Library's historical collections is based on a series of donations and acquisitions from the eighteenth century, known as the 'foundation collections'. These include the books and manuscripts of Sir Robert Cotton, Sir Hans Sloane, Robert Harley and King George III.

The tour was of the whole Library and showed in detail how the reading rooms work and the whole process of how a book gets from the basement to the reader in the reading rooms. Actually the reader, of most of the subjects, never comes in contact with the books, but does his entire subject browsing from the online integrated catalogue. Another interesting fact about the British Library is that they don't use a formal classification scheme but put the books on the shelves according to the height not subjects. Because they have so many books they save on shelf space by doing it this way. Collection handling guidance

workshops are held regularly to teach their readers more about the handling of books and other items. They also hold regular practical skills sessions on techniques for handling collection items such as manuscripts and historic documents.



The Main building of the Humboldt University in Berlin.

Berlin, Germany (23-25 September 2008)

The venue for the International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications was the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany. The theme of the Dublin Core conference was Metadata for Semantic and Social Applications. The program has a dual focus, with attention on semantic applications (where the focus is on machine-readable information and co-operation between automated systems) and social applications (where the focus is on co-operation between people). These two aspects are both forms of co-operation that are crucial for enabling the interoperability that is at the heart of the work on Dublin Core metadata. There were 312 participants from 38 different countries attending the conference.

The papers, posters and reports addressed an array of significant metadata issues and questions related to metadata for semantic and social applications. The twelve papers were organized on the following five themes:

1. Dublin Core: innovation and moving forward;
2. Semantic integration, linking, and KOS methods;
3. Metadata generation: methods, profiles, and models;
4. Metadata quality; and
5. Tagging and metadata for social networking.

The eight reports covered the following three themes:

1. Toward the Semantic Web,
2. Metadata scheme design, application, and use; and
3. Vocabulary integration and interoperability.

The twelve posters presented captured key aspects of current research activities.

The 17 workshop sessions brought together participants interested in a specific topic related to Dublin Core metadata or the use of Dublin Core in a particular domain. There was also a special session on wikis and how they can be used to harvest digital material with the attached metadata into a repository.

These papers, reports, and poster abstracts present developments in the field of metadata, with particular attention given to successes in the area of semantic and social systems. The conference focused strongly on metadata challenges, solutions and innovation in initiatives and activities underlying semantic and social applications. Metadata is part of social

computing, such as the use of wikis, blogs, and tagging for collaboration and participation. Metadata also underlies the development of the Semantic Web (the representation and integration of multimedia knowledge structures on the basis of structured metadata) and therefore it is crucial to stay informed about the developments in the metadata environment.

The next Dublin Core Conference will be held in Seoul, Korea, 12-16 October 2009. A PowerPoint presentation of the report is available at: <https://www.up.ac.za/dspace/handle/2263/8923>

Exceptional achievers 2008 awards

University of Pretoria honours its exceptional academic achievers

The University of Pretoria presented awards to twenty one of its exceptional academic achievers on Wednesday 25 March 2009. The event took place at the Edoardo Villa Museum (at the Hatfield Campus of the University). The University of Pretoria's position is that recognition and rewarding of exceptional academic achievers in the fields of research and education are important elements of the University's strategy which is aimed at giving effect to its stated vision and mission.

Exceptional achievement implies the maintenance of unrivalled achievement in the core business of the University, namely: research, teaching and learning. Excellence in this regard is viewed against the backdrop of the University's two strategic drivers, namely: international competitiveness and local relevance.

We congratulate the two achievers of the Faculty:



Prof Barend Penzhorn is a professor in the Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases in the Faculty of Veterinary Science. His doctoral research on the behaviour and ecology of Cape mountain zebras was one of the pioneer studies of the behaviour of free-ranging animals in this country. After switching to veterinary science, he gravitated towards parasitology, specialising in protozoology. The most exciting and gratifying work in this field is the identification and molecular characterisation of new species of blood parasites in wildlife. He is a past president of the South African Veterinary Association and the Southern African Wildlife Management Association and was elected as a member of the European Veterinary Parasitology College in 2006. He also served

one term as elected member of the South African Veterinary Council. Some of the previous awards Prof Penzhorn has received are the Research Award of the South African Veterinary Association in 1995 and the Elsdon-Dew Medal for contributions to parasitology in Africa from the Parasitological Society of Southern Africa in 2006. He has a B rating from the NRF. In his free time, Prof Penzhorn enjoys bird-watching, listening to music and translating natural history books from English into Afrikaans.

Prof Vinny Naidoo is an associate professor in the Department of Paraclinical Sciences in the Faculty of Veterinary Science. His research interest is veterinary pharmacology and his PhD dealt with the protection of endangered Asian white-backed vultures on the Asian subcontinent following their inadvertent exposure to diclofenac in the food chain. Apart from



the fact that he is the youngest South African veterinarian to obtain a PhD in Veterinary Science to date, he was nominated as one of the 10 top researchers of the faculty for two years in a row. He has published 25 articles in peer-reviewed journals, and has contributed four book chapters on either veterinary toxicology or pharmacology. He serves on the Veterinary Clinical Committee of the Medicines Control Council of South Africa, and on the medicines committee that advises the South African Veterinary Association on matters pertaining to the veterinary use of medicinal products. He is a member of several other professional bodies, including the South African Veterinary Association and the South African Pharmaceutical and Pharmacological Society. The main focus of his current research projects, which have attracted wide media coverage, is the protection of the Cape griffon vulture.

A new CAB Direct platform

Antoinette Lourens

CAB is in the process of designing a new platform to be as user-friendly and intuitive as possible.

We recently received a letter announcing the exciting new changes coming to CAB Direct. The new CAB Direct is now in beta, and as a valued library user who is familiar with the CAB Direct platform, we would love to get your feedback to ensure the live version is the best it can be.

The beta site of the new CAB Direct can be accessed at <http://www.cabdirect2.org>

Please have a look at the beta site and let me have your feedback so that we can have the platform as user friendly as possible. You can e-mail your suggestions to Antoinette.lourens@up.ac.za

Academy prizes awarded to UP personnel



The Council of the South African Academy for Science and Arts recently confirmed several awards which will be presented to the receivers on 27 June 2009. Four staff members of the University of Pretoria are worthy winners.

Gold Academy Medal: The medal is awarded for outstanding work in practical invention (or application) and ingenuity based on a scientific and/or experimental basis.

This year the medal has been awarded to Prof J N Eloff from the Department Paraclinical Sciences, Faculty Veterinary Sciences, University of Pretoria.

As a scientist, Prof Eloff has made a very large contribution to the extension and development of botany and more recently the use of medicinal plants in Southern Africa. Prof Eloff started a research group that has been very successful in the field of medicinal plant research and has registered four patents for the application of plant extracts to infections. He has developed a method to determine antibacterial activity of plant extracts which is being used all over the world.

Animal Pharm - World Animal Health and Nutrition News

Marguerite Nel

ANIMAL⁺ PHARM

One of the Veterinary Science Library's new electronic journal subscriptions is Animal Pharm. This journal updates readers with all the latest news and key developments from the world of animal health and nutrition.

The Animal Pharm editorial team's expertise and years of experience in animal health and nutrition provide unparalleled insight into the industry in order to allow faster and better informed strategic decisions.

The following are included in the Animal Pharm package:

- **Animal Pharm Newsletter**
The industry's leading news source of news and authoritative business insight www.animalpharmnews.com. Access the industry's leading information source with all the latest news and a searchable archive of news articles – providing an unrivalled research tool
- **Animal Pharm Reports**
Access to over 24 Animal Pharm market research and analysis reports -helping you to discover new market opportunities, identify promising market ventures and research your competitors
- **Pharm Fresh: Weekly research briefing**
This e-newsletter brings you key research developments in the industry. It also alerts you to relevant new research papers published in technical journals around the world

Animal Pharm is available in print as well as online, from our e-journal portal. Passwords can be obtained from the library.

Celebrating life !

Erica van der Westhuizen

As the world celebrates the 200th anniversary of the birth of CHARLES DARWIN this year, the focus is on his extraordinary book, *The Origin of species*, first published in 1859.

8.

This book is one of the most important books ever published. The Veterinary Science Library has a copy. It forms part of the Evolution Display, now on in the library.

From WIKIPEDIA: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/On_the_Origin_of_Species (Viewed 1 April 2009)

Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* (published 24 November 1859) is a seminal work in scientific literature and a landmark work in evolutionary biology.^[1] The book's full title is *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life*. In the 6th edition of 1872 the title was changed to *The Origin of Species*.^[2] It introduced the theory that populations evolve over the course of generations through a process of natural selection. Darwin's book contains a wealth of evidence that the diversity of life arose through a branching pattern of evolution and common descent – evidence which he had accumulated on the voyage of the *Beagle* in the 1830s and expanded through research, correspondence, and experiments after his return.^[1]

The book is readable even for the non-specialist and attracted widespread interest on publication. The topic of evolution had been highly controversial during the first half of the 19th century, since transmutation of species contradicted the long accepted idea that species were unchanging parts of a designed hierarchy. It had been the subject of political and theological debates, with competing ideas of biology trying to explain new findings.

The scientific theory of evolution has continued to advance since Darwin's contributions, but natural selection remains the most widely accepted scientific explanation for the development of new species. Despite the overwhelming scientific consensus, political and religious challenges to the theory of evolution continue in some countries.

(NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: Did you know that it was not Darwin who coined the phrase "The survival of the fittest"? Who did?) Answer on back page.

What's the point of CIL*?

Erica van der Westhuizen

Computer and information literacy (CIL 111, CIL 121)

It is a requirement for all new first-year students to register for two modules in Computer and Information Literacy. Students may write an exemption test for CIL 111 (Computer Literacy) only. (UP yearbook of 2009)

CIL is the course that equips you in the art of lifelong searching, finding and using information.

Not only how to use online information sources, such as electronic databases of literature references, or web sources on the Internet, but any kind of information, including that found in paper sources, not yet digitised.

So the real question is: **What's the point of Information?**

9.

If you don't know the answer, or don't attach much importance to Information, then you will be a veterinary practitioner without an urge to keep up-to-date with the ever-developing information and knowledge in your chosen subject field.

And what sort of vet will you then be?

*CIL is presented during the first year of the BSc Vet Biol degree. Instead of trying to avoid it (by applying for exemption), participate positively in the opportunity – IT WILL BENEFIT YOU FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.

Descendants of important role players in SA veterinary history

Erica vanderWesthuizen

As part of the Faculty of Veterinary Science's centenary celebrations the Faculty co-hosted the Pan African Centenary Veterinary Conference at Onderstepoort, 6-9 October 2008.

The Veterinary Science Library used the opportunity to feature its various collections in UPSPACE in a display which ran for the duration of the conference.

Special posters were designed by Ria Groenewald to highlight the Open Access research articles in OpenUP, the Arnold Theiler Memorial Lectures collection in UPSPACE, Christine Seegers biomedical illustrations in UPSPACE, and slide material from various departments at the Faculty.

A powerpoint presentation designed by Antoinette Lourens ran throughout the conference, explaining the importance of digitising unique information sources.

The SA National Veterinary Repository was also highlighted as it contains much material of historical importance, especially covering the Theiler period.

Sir Arnold Theiler (1867 - 1936) was the official veterinarian of the ZAR when Paul Kruger was president of the Boer Republic. He gained worldwide recognition for his research on animal diseases of South Africa. He is also remarkable in that he started the Faculty of Veterinary Science in 1920, the only one in South Africa.

Dr Jotello Soga (1865- 1906) is significant as he was the first South African to qualify as a veterinarian (1886, University of Edinburgh). He is also known as a researcher (on medicinal uses of plants) so it is fitting that he should be remembered at special veterinary occasions as well. At the opening ceremony of the conference and at the Conference Banquet that evening both the Minister of Agriculture Lulu Xingwana and State President Motlanthe made special mention of this first South African to qualify as a veterinarian and his important role in the field and in research.



The Library staff were thrilled to meet the direct descendants of both Sir Arnold Theiler and Dr Jotello Soga. In the photo taken at the library display can be seen in front from l. to r.

Mr Gallagher, Dr Emily Mogojane, Carole Gallagher (great granddaughter of Dr Soga), Elizabeth Theiler Martin (grand daughter of Sir Arnold) and her husband behind her, next to the Dean, Prof Gerry Swan and Erica van der Westhuizen.

It was a privilege to show them around the library and discuss the role their eminent forefathers played in the veterinary scene at the end of the 19th Century and beginning of the 20th Century.

Theiler's granddaughter, Elizabeth Theiler Martin and her husband were most interested in viewing some of the photo albums showing Sir Arnold and Lady Emma on their world travels. Included were photos of Elizabeth's father, Max Theiler in his youth. Dr Max Theiler was awarded the Nobel Prize for his work on the yellow fever vaccine in 1951.

Conversations with Sir Arnold

Erica van der Westhuizen

Sir Arnold: In my life time researchers in animal diseases relied on the well known, recognised scientific journals to keep up-to-date or to track the latest research in their fields. There were not many at that time. How do they manage now when there are many more journals?

Librarian: There is the internationally acclaimed scientific organisation called the Commonwealth Agriculture Bureaux in the UK. They have created a database of all relevant veterinary and related literature, called *CAB Abstracts*.

I think you may have heard about this organisation, as it was founded in 1930 as the Imperial Agricultural Bureaux, a few years before your death?

In fact, South Africa played a significant role in its creation, by being one of the founder members, as it was a Commonwealth country.

Sir Arnold: In the 1930's I was travelling abroad, as you will see from the photos taken on my trips now in the albums in your library. I was of course retired by then as head of the Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute and as Dean of the Faculty.

I expect that my research is not featured in the CAB database you mentioned, as it was mostly published before 1930.

Librarian: Why no, your articles are included as CAB developed a retrospective database going back to the early 1900's. So today's researchers are able to trace early work on animal diseases of Africa, and do not have to repeat research which you and your colleagues had already done and so very thoroughly described in your articles.

(See appended list of Sir Arnold Theiler's journal publications)

CAB HISTORY

CABI can trace its origins back to 1910. It began as an entomological research committee then developed into a Commonwealth organization before becoming a truly international service in agricultural information, pest identification and biological control.

1910	Formation of the Entomological Research Committee (Tropical Africa). One field entomologist is posted to East Africa and one to West Africa to collect and study insects injurious to humans, crops and animals. Collected specimens are sent to the Natural History Museum in London for identification.
1910	Bulletin of Entomological Research launched.

1913	Formation of the Imperial Bureau of Entomology. Its chief function is the identification of insect pests, and the issue of a monthly periodical, giving summaries of all current entomological literature (the first abstract journal).
1920	Imperial Bureau of Mycology at Kew established, for the identification of fungal diseases of plants, animals and humans and the abstracting of the mycological literature.
1922	First issue of the Imperial Bureau of Mycology's abstract journal.
1927	Imperial Agricultural Research conference (IARC) held in London. The IARC agreed to the formation of a number of new bureaux and that they should each produce an abstract journal on their own subject.
1930	The Imperial Agricultural Bureaux is officially formed as a Commonwealth organization.
1933	The Bureaux of Entomology and Mycology are raised to the status of Institutes and merge with the Imperial Agricultural Bureaux. An offshoot of Entomology becomes part of CAB and later evolves into the Institute of Biological Control.
1938	Bureaux of Dairy Science and Forestry merges with the Imperial Agricultural Bureaux
1947	Imperial Agricultural Bureaux becomes the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux (CAB).
1966	The Bureau of Agricultural Economics becomes part of CAB.
1973	Contents from all the abstract journals, now computerized, are unified to produce the CAB database (CAB Abstracts).
1978	Training courses on Information in Agriculture started for information scientists and librarians.
1980	By 1980 the number of abstract journals has increased from 19 to 45.
1980	News and Information journals developed. These contained news items from all over the world, short digests and review articles, as well as the abstracts from the world literature.
1986	Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux becomes CAB International.

Sir Arnold Theiler's journal publications

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THEILER, A. 1927, January. Lamsiekte (Parabotulism) in Cattle in South Africa. *Union of South Africa. 11th & 12th Reports, Director of Veterinary Education and Research.*, 821-1361.

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THEILER, A. 1931. Natural and Experimental Aposphorosis of Cattle. *Maroc medical*, 239-242.

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Emerald Literati Network : 2009 Awards for Excellence

Antoinette Lourens



Amelia Breytenbach



Ria Groenewald

Every year Emerald invites each journal's Editorial Team to nominate what they believe has been that title's Outstanding Paper and up to three Highly Commended Papers from the previous 12 months. The article entitled **The African elephant: a digital collection of anatomical sketches as part of the University of Pretoria's institutional repository - a case study** published in *OCLC Systems & Services: International digital library perspectives* has been chosen as an **Outstanding Paper Award Winner** at the Literati Network Awards for Excellence 2009. The paper has been selected as it was one of the most impressive pieces of work the team has seen throughout 2008. The authors of this outstanding paper are **Amelia Breytenbach** of the Veterinary Science Library and **Ria Groenewald** from the Main library.

The award winning papers are chosen following consultation amongst the journal's Editorial Team, many of whom are eminent academics or managers.

Congratulations to Amelia and Ria.

Unique name for the library

Erica van der Westhuizen

The Library will be known officially as the **JOTELLO F. SOGA LIBRARY** on 5 May 2009. The renaming in honour of the first South African to qualify as a veterinary surgeon was approved by the University Senate and by the University Council last November.

A special function will be held in the Sir Arnold Theiler Building, starting in Lecture Hall 1-35, and then moving to the Library for the unveiling of the name and the bronze bust. The Chancellor of the University, Prof Wiseman Nkuhle will welcome the guests. The guest speaker will be Mr Jesse Lewis from the USA, the biographical researcher and author on Jotello Soga. Through his fascinating article on Soga, published in the Beeld supplement of 6 January 2007 we were first alerted to this important role-player in our country's veterinary arena.



We hope that Soga's great granddaughter, Mrs Carole Gallagher will be able to attend to unveil the bust.

SOGA'S SIGNIFICANCE TODAY

Dr Jotello Festiri Soga studied for the veterinary degree at the University of Edinburgh and qualified in 1886.

"Dr Soga played an important role in combating rinderpest and lung-sickness in the country as the first qualified South African veterinarian. He also laid a foundation for veterinary education in South Africa. But he is better known in veterinary circles as a pioneer researcher in the study of toxic plants and their effect on animals – both for their poisonous and curative effects." *(Prof Gerry Swan, Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Science).*

Answer to question on p.9

"Survival of the fittest" is a phrase which is shorthand for a concept relating to competition for survival or predominance. Originally applied by Herbert Spencer in his Principles of Biology of 1864, Spencer drew parallels to his ideas of economics with Charles Darwin's theory of evolution by what Darwin termed natural selection. URL: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Survival_of_the_fittest (accessed on 21 April 2009)
