Welcome to the second edition of the Pre-Vet Club Newsletter!

The Los Angeles Pierce College Pre-Vet Club is a group of pre-veterinary students striving toward the ultimate goal of becoming veterinarians by taking the necessary classes needed to advance on to vet school, volunteering in the community, helping both people and animals alike, and supporting each other through every step of the pre-veterinary process.

Meeting time: every Tuesday 5:30-6:45pm in CFS 91126
Contact us- Prevet.mail@gmail.com

The Pre-Vet Club meets on campus in the Center for the Sciences building, Room 91126, every Tuesday of spring and fall semester from 5:30-6:45pm. You can contact us by email at prevet.mail@gmail.com. You can also find us on Big Tent, where you can RSVP to club events and trips. Don’t forget to join our Facebook group for information updates! Simply search Pierce College Pre Vet Club.

Pre-Vet Club News

We had a lot of events throughout October and in the beginning of November:

University of Melbourne, Australia

Dr. Jean-Pierre Scheerlinck, the Assistant Dean of International Students at the University of Melbourne, Australia, visited us on October 8th and presented information on the University to the club. He was given a tour of the farm, our campus, and the RVT building and was highly impressed by our club and by our pre-veterinary program. It was a great opportunity to forge a connection with an international school. For more information on University of Melbourne please visit: http://www.vet.unimelb.edu.au/futurestudents/dvm.html

Dr. Jean-Pierre Scheerlinck pictured here with the President of Pierce College, Kathleen Burke.
Pierce College’s Halloween Carnival

Pierce College’s Associated Student Organization (ASO) hosted the annual Halloween Carnival on October 31st. Pre Vet Club participated by selling popcorn and grilling hot dogs to sell to fellow students and club members! The Halloween Carnival gave us another chance to publicize ourselves to the rest of the Pierce campus, and we loved the chance to see all of our members in costume!

San Diego Zoo Trip

The annual San Diego Zoo trip was an amazing trip that included a private tour of the zoo by an EATM graduate and current keeper at the zoo with the help of her fellow zoo staff. We were fortunate enough to tour their veterinary hospital and speak to an RVT and veterinarian that help treat all of the 4,000 animals (800 different species) in the zoo. After our 4-hour private tour, the members enjoyed the rest of their day exploring the zoo.

Santa Anita Race Track

Our trip to the Santa Anita racetrack was fantastic! Dr. Patio gave ten members a tour behind the scenes of the veterinary hospital and the barns. Not only did he demonstrate the procedures he routinely performs, but he also introduced us to some of the ethical issues a racetrack veterinarian encounters.
WALKING SHIELD

Walking Shield was a great success. The Pre-Vet Club, with the assistance of the Pierce College ASO, Child Development Center, Habitat for Humanity, and Phi Theta Kappa managed to compile 250+ backpacks for donation to kids on Native American reservations in the cold East Coast states. Walking Shield Sorting Day was held on November 5th during our usual Pre Vet Club meeting. Members helped ensure that all backpacks had all the necessary items such as school supplies, hygiene items, and activities by moving the backpacks through different specifically labeled stations. All of the backpacks were packaged and delivered successfully to the Walking Shield headquarters on Saturday, November 9th.

We wish to thank all of our club members for your time and efforts in supporting the Pre-Vet Club with Walking Shield, as it is much appreciated and does not go unnoticed. Special thanks to the Child Development Center, Habitat for Humanity, Phi Theta Kappa, and Elaina Widjaja for their help with Walking Shield, for without their help we would not have been able to fulfill our commitment to Walking Shield. Thank you to our Philanthropy Chair, Lidia Hernandez, for coordinating and managing the Walking Shield event for the Pre-Vet Club. And finally, we wish to thank Dr. Shapiro for all the support and encouragement he gives to us.

250+ backpacks donated! Thank you to all who participated in brightening these children’s holiday!

Photo Credit: Tess Schexnayder

Pre-Vet Club volunteers at Walking Shield headquarters, after packaging all of the backpacks.

Photo Credit: Josemario Diaz
One of October’s donation jars was dedicated to an organization located in Glendale, Ca called Taking the Reins. The organization is a community-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization serving adolescent girls in Los Angeles. Their programs teach life skills to middle and high-school girls primarily through horse care and riding. In addition to our Equestrian Program, girls can participate in the Urban Farming Program. They serve girls from schools and organizations in the local community and provide positive, nurturing activities. These programs are offered at no, or very low, cost to our participants. They rely on donations from individuals, as well as grants from charitable foundations and corporations. In fifteen years, Taking the Reins (TTR) has served more than 1,000 girls, empowering them to be strong, confident, and courageous. We fundraised a total of $88!

For more information visit: http://takingthereins.org/

The second donation jar that is normally dedicated to Pierce Farm was changed to aid the South Dakota farmers that have been affected by an unusually early and strong blizzard. Thousands of cattle were lost because their winter coats had not yet grown in to protect them from the harsh weather. The farmers are seeking financial aid or cattle from farmers in neighboring states.

Thank You...

The Pre-Vet Club officers would first like to thank Dr. Shapiro for his continuous support and dedication to our program. We would also like to thank our club members—new and returning—for dedicating their time and helping us make this semester one of our best! Josemario graciously offered to host both of our suture labs and we could not have made it possible without him! Also a big thanks to ‘Scuba’ Steve, an RVT who dedicates his time twice each semester to help our pre-vet club members learn how to suture.

We hope you enjoy the holiday season!

…and Happy Holidays!