

## **CITATION – John Alexander Craven**

John Craven has made major contributions to research in veterinary science, to research leadership, to the Australian dairy industry, to food and environmental safety, and to quality assurance in veterinary education.

He commenced his undergraduate BVSc studies at the University of Melbourne then, as the full BVSc programme had not yet recommenced at Melbourne, transferred to the University of Sydney, graduating with a BVSc (Hons) in 1962. As he had been awarded a Victorian Department of Agriculture Cadetship to undertake his BVSc, he returned to Victoria and was posted to the Veterinary Research Institute in Parkville, just as the new School of Veterinary Science and BVSc course at Melbourne commenced in 1963. He assisted in the supervision of undergraduate BVSc students in practical classes in Veterinary Microbiology for the first two years of the new programme and was awarded a Master of Veterinary Science by the University of Melbourne in 1966 for studies on *Escherichia coli* enteritis in calves. In 1967 he left Melbourne to undertake a PhD at the University of Guelph, returning to become the Officer in Charge at the new Victorian Department of Agriculture Attwood Veterinary Research Laboratory in 1971, where he established a reputation as an excellent research leader, and built up a large team of veterinary researchers. The research output from Attwood whilst he was in charge is testimony to his leadership. He fostered collaborative relationships with the University of Melbourne, and LaTrobe and Monash Universities.

His personal research interests included bacteriology, food safety and the effective treatment of effluent. Under his leadership, the Attwood laboratory attracted undergraduate students from both the University of Melbourne and LaTrobe University to complete research projects as part of the requirements for their degrees in Agricultural Science and Science, and provided facilities for research by postgraduate research students.

He was appointed an Academic Associate of the Faculty of Veterinary Science at The University of Melbourne in 1974 to assist in the supervision of undergraduate BVSc students undertaking extramural studies as part of their degree programme. He remained Officer in Charge/Director at the Attwood laboratory until 1985, then becoming a regional manager for the Victorian Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs. He has made major contributions to the Australian dairy industry, as a member of the Board of enquiry into the industry in 1975 and 1976, and then as a Portfolio Manager for the Dairy Research and Development Corporation from 1990 to 1997, and continues to contribute to the industry through Dairy Australia. In addition to his roles in veterinary research and the dairy industry, he has had a longstanding interest in food and environmental safety. From 2002 till 2009 he was a director of Food Standards Australia New Zealand and from 2011 until 2016 was a director of the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority.

In 2001 he was asked to chair the newly constituted Veterinary Schools Accreditation Advisory Committee of the new Australasian Veterinary Boards Council. Prior to his tenure, although veterinary school accreditation in Australia was carried out by high calibre members of the profession, there were no formal Policies, Procedures and Standards for accreditation. He oversaw the modernisation of the quality assurance processes for veterinary education in Australasia. He participated in international accreditation in the United Kingdom, and his leadership was critical to the maintenance of quality assurance in veterinary education through a period of considerable change, including the opening of two new veterinary schools. He was also a key driver behind the development of processes for coordinated accreditation of veterinary schools by Australasian, British and North American veterinary registration authorities.