



## **IAT graduation special: *Congratulations to all the successful HE students***

### **The 2023 Graduation Ceremony**

### **IAT Diploma Levels 4, 5 and 6 Laboratory Animal Science and Technology**

### ***Awarded by the Institute of Animal Technology***

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***IAT Council would like to congratulate all the IAT Higher Education (HE) students for their outstanding achievement in passing their exams.***

On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 the graduation ceremony took place at the MRC Mary Lyon Advanced Training Centre for students who had completed the IAT Diploma Levels 4, 5 and 6 of Laboratory Animal Science and Technology. It was a wonderful day enjoyed by students, their families and friends who could share in their success.

Most important of all, IAT Council, College of Laboratory Animal Science and Technology (CLAST) lecturers and trustees congratulate the Higher Education (HE) students for their hard work and dedication. It was great to see some newly elected Fellows of the IAT.

For the day we are indebted to the IAT's good friend Professor Sir Richard Gardner FRS for being the Guest of Honour, Mary Lyon Advance Training Centre for hosting and organising the graduation. A special thanks also to the MLC Advance staff who looked after everyone so well throughout the day. Ken Applebee for being Announcer and Linda Horan as Chair of the IAT for their roles in the ceremony.

### The following Students were awarded the IAT Diploma Level 4 Laboratory Animal Science and Technology:

<b>Bruna</b>	<b>Delfini</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Dimitra</b>	<b>Mantzorou</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Emma</b>	<b>Mustafa</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Kyle</b>	<b>O'Sullivan</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Aleksandra (Ola)</b>	<b>Czerniak</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Chelsea</b>	<b>Cavanagh</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Gemma</b>	<b>Dykes</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Jane</b>	<b>Holby</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Emily</b>	<b>Thorpe</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Athanasios</b>	<b>Vouzas</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Rachel</b>	<b>Blackburn-Stout</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Susan</b>	<b>Fotheringham</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Kelly</b>	<b>Frater</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Justyna</b>	<b>Glegola</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Jamie</b>	<b>Kelly</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Emma</b>	<b>Scott</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Jenny</b>	<b>Bartley</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Nicola</b>	<b>Evans-Bailey</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Kat</b>	<b>Gowan</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Amy</b>	<b>Ferreira</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Busisiwe</b>	<b>Mogodi</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Sian</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	<b>2023</b>



**The following Students were awarded the IAT Diploma Levels 5 Laboratory Animal Science and Technology:**

Victoria	Hearn	2019
Victoria	Lacey	2019
Chelsea	Cavanagh	2020
Casey	Dalling	2020
Sarah	Drummond	2020
Louis	Kitchenham	2020
Bruna	Delfini	2022
Justyna	Glegola	2022
Jamie	Kelly	2022
Emma	Mustafa	2022
Kyle	O'Sullivan	2022
Emma	Scott	2022

**The following Students were awarded the IAT Diploma Level 6 Laboratory Animal Science and Technology:**

Carmen	Abela	2019
Richard	Berks	2019
Karen	Fry	2019
Ian	Bagley	2020
Matthew	Bilton	2020
Emma	Hamilton	2020
Jolene	Hammonds	2020
Ania	Sobczak	2020
Emma	Tozer	2020
Francesca	Flack	2021
Lisa	Watson	2021
Cheryl	Yalden	2021
Kerry	Lavin-Thomson	2022
Michelle	Scutter	2022
Lisa	Wright	2022
Georgina	Orosz	2023



We are in exciting times with our completely revised Higher Education Continuing Professional Education system that begun delivery in September 2023. The new HE system has been developed in conjunction with CLAST and Mary Lyon Advance Training Centre, who have put incredible efforts in to developing the new syllabus based on their previous experience and student feedback which is world leading in our field.

In addition, thanks go to:

- The new teaching staff for developing the new lesson plans and online material.
- The Board of Education Policy for overview and input into syllabus.
- Jock Fraser for coordination of new units with Ofqual.
- A special thanks to Brian Lowe as outgoing CLAST programme lead.

## Overview of the IAT HE programme

The IAT acts as the professional body for persons engaged in laboratory animal science, supporting the interests of Animal Technologists in the United Kingdom (UK) and abroad. As a recognised Ofqual Awarding Organisation the IAT develops, manages and quality assures qualifications that are widely recognised within academia and the biotechnology industry in the UK and abroad.

The IAT HE programme aims to provide an internationally recognised education programme that ensures Animal Technologists and other laboratory science professionals are equipped to meet their legal and ethical responsibilities in providing high standards of care and welfare for laboratory animals. It also provides the knowledge and skills for the future advancement of Animal Welfare, good science and to ensure Animal Technologists are suitable for personal and career advancement.

## How can you benefit from our courses?

There are lots of benefits to be gained from studying with us at any level and the further you progress through our qualifications the more you stand to gain. Each of our units has been designed to develop your skills profile and will give you the chance to:

- Learn about complex biological processes related to animals in research.
- Develop and refine your critical thinking and writing abilities.
- Maintain and improve Animal Welfare within your facility.
- Develop your soft skills in management, negotiation and communication skills.
- Perform experimental procedures safely and humanely.

- Increase your job satisfaction and chance of career progression.
- Provide you with valuable professional networking opportunities.
- Learn to deliver confident and informative presentations and reports.
- Graduate with an IAT HE certificate that can be used towards a full HE qualification in the future.

## How can your employer benefit from your studies?

As an employer you want to know that you are making a worthy investment in your employees' education and training. We strive to train laboratory professionals to the highest standards and work closely with many large employers of laboratory staff including the Universities of Edinburgh, Oxford, Cambridge, King's College London, AstraZeneca and Cape Town.

The benefits of higher education and training in animal science and technology are not just for your employees, your organisation stands to gain just as much, including:

- Increased staff loyalty and sense of being valued by the employer.
- Greater staff retention, especially whilst they are studying.
- Be safe in the knowledge that your staff are experts in Animal Welfare, helping to maintain a Culture of Care.
- Students will develop interpersonal skills to facilitate working effectively with a diverse range of stakeholders in a team environment.
- Students learn cutting edge approaches from industry experts, equipping staff with a range of practical skills to bring to the workplace.
- Our wide range of modules meet Continual Professional Development (CPD) needs and can be incorporated into staff appraisals.
- Staff members who are confident public speakers with improved communication and presentation skills.
- Efficient employees who can prioritise and manage their time effectively.
- Employees with developed scientific writing skills for use in the company.

Animal Technology requires integration with a broad range of disciplines. Senior Animal Technologists are expected to communicate effectively with a range of key personal including scientists, veterinarians, Named Persons under the Animal (Scientific Procedures) Act (ASPA), building engineers and other technical professions (for example histology and pathology). They require a broad knowledge of many disciplines and the ability to understand the key points of scientific practice, building design and management, good animal management and welfare, disease recognition and control and a thorough understanding of the key legislation controlling the use

of animals for research. The HE programme provides a wide range of skills, knowledge and behaviours which help the students integrate effectively with their professional colleagues.

As science and Animal Welfare are rapidly evolving areas there is a responsibility on all Animal Technologists to continually update their skills and knowledge base. This is something all of these HE students have demonstrated very effectively over the course of their studies.

Studying at any level is hard but when you must balance your studies with a full time job and commitments to family and friends it can become very difficult. Although the HE units are now delivered through a mix of formal taught sessions, tutorials, group work and practical activities, most of the work is done by the students independently, in their own time. This requires high levels of commitment and effort by the student and support from their employers for successful outcomes. It requires the students to develop excellent time management and prioritisation skills to juggle their professional and personal commitments successfully.

## Objectives of assessment process

The HE qualifications are designed to:

- Recognise learning and prepare the learner for further learning and training and to develop knowledge and skills in Animal Technology.
- Prepare learners for further learning and training by establishing a broad and relevant base of knowledge and skills in Animal Technology.
- Develop knowledge and skills in laboratory animal science and technology specialist areas which enhance the learners' abilities to take independence and autonomy in their work role.
- Encourage updating of skills and knowledge and CPD.
- Relates knowledge and skills to legal, technical, process or good practice requirements in the field of laboratory animal science and technology.
- Develop knowledge and skills in order to gain recognition at a higher level or in a different role.
- Develop knowledge and skills relevant to a particular specialisation within an occupation or set of occupations.

The broad objectives of the assessment process are to:

- Provide a sound theoretical knowledge and/or the practical abilities of the principles that underpin the practice of laboratory animal sciences and technology, and to improve the welfare of animals and the quality of the animal work necessary to fulfil the increasingly demanding role of an Animal Technologist under the legislation protecting animals used for experimental or other scientific purposes.
- Assist learners effectively to demonstrate competence in the execution of practical skills.
- Foster a spirit of independent learning, enquiry and continuing professional development (CPD).
- Externally assess the learning that has taken place and its application to the practice of laboratory animal science and technology.
- Provide the basis of career progression as a qualified Animal Technologist.
- Provide a coherent and balanced education appropriate to the level of professional membership.
- Provide a qualification that is recognised by employers and competent authorities.
- Provide a portable qualification preparing learners for further professional development transferable between jobs and countries.



We would like to thank and recognise all the CLAST teaching staff for all their support of students.

### Lecturers for the HE Programme

David Anderson	Paul Flecknell
Simon Anderson	Glyn Fisher
Ken Applebee	Judith Fowlston
Jas Barley	Nicky Gent
Pilar Bowne	Susie Knight
James Bussell	Matt Leach
Gary Childs	Brian Lowe
Steven Cubitt	Carol Luck
Auriol Lamb Cubitt	Michelle Stewart
Hayley Daniels	

We would like to thank the commercial sponsors of the graduation day.

**IAT, The Learning Curve, Tecniplast, CCTech, IPS, Agenda, a-tune, Aston Pharma, Charles River and Castium.**

**It's all about you so become a HE student and share the success!**

# CLAST

### College of Laboratory Animal Science and Technology

A non-profit course provider of Higher Education (HE) and CPD qualifications designed for those working with animals in research, including Animal Technologists, Registered Veterinary Professionals, and Senior Researchers.

CLAST was established to provide the specialist training and education required at this level of study. CLAST is a non-profit course provider that has been set up to deliver HE qualifications in Animal Technology. The IAT continues to award the qualifications and CLAST now delivers and assesses all the Level 4, 5 and 6 units and qualifications.



CLAST is managed by a board of five trustees who have the responsibility to ensure the provision and delivery of high quality education and training at a reasonable cost. The trustees are also responsible for ensuring the trust complies with its legal responsibilities as a charity and that financial and other records are submitted to the Charity Commission as required.

## Board of Trustees

**Chair – Ken Applebee**

**Secretary – Gary Childs**

**Members – Ngaire Dennison, Paul Flecknell, David Spillane and Sara Wells.**

CLAST continues to draw upon the support of industry experts who teach and assess the qualifications.

CLAST will also be looking to support the industry in developing and delivering new CPD short courses over the coming years.

## Unable to access higher education because of financial reasons?

The HE programme would have struggled to continue without attracting sufficient funding and student numbers. AS-ET has played a big part in supporting the students who wanted to study but needed some financial support.



AS-ET is a charity, registered under the UK Charity Law with the objective to advance education and promote excellence in the care and welfare of animals used in science.

The Trust achieves its objective by providing bursaries for education and training courses, supporting the development of new courses, promoting the production of teaching package. We also provide prizes to encourage people to undertake further education and training. Three AS-ET prizes were presented at this year's graduation ceremony.

The AS-ET Trustees would like to congratulate the graduates who have successfully undertaken a demanding course, extending their knowledge and making them better able to promote excellence in the care and welfare of animals used in science. We hope many other technologists will follow their example. If any potential student has difficulty in raising the registration fee AS-ET will be happy to consider an application for a bursary.

For further details visit [www.as-et.org.uk](http://www.as-et.org.uk)

## Our Diplomas –

### Level 4

### Laboratory Animal Science and Technology Diploma

Our Level 4 Diploma is the first step in gaining higher education qualifications in Laboratory Animal Science and Technology (LAS&T).

#### Level 4 | CLAST





## Level 5

### **Laboratory Animal Science and Technology Diploma**

Our Level 5 Diploma continues from Level 4 and provides a more comprehensive look at subjects.

[Level 5 | CLAST](#)

## Level 6

### **Laboratory Animal Science and Technology Diploma**

Our Level 6 Diploma continues from Level 5 and upon successful completion you will gain a full IAT HE Diploma.

[Level 6 | CLAST](#)

## IAT Fellowship

### **For Level 6 graduates**

Students that have completed a Level 6 Diploma are eligible for IAT Fellowship. Become a Fellow to receive exclusive benefits and become available for election to council.

### **Register for a diploma**

Before enrolling in courses for your chosen diploma please make sure you have registered onto your chosen level first. Registering is made very simple by our registration form.

[Register | College of Laboratory Animal science and technology \(clast.org.uk\)](https://www.clast.org.uk)





## **About our Diplomas**

We offer level 4 to 6 IAT Diplomas in Laboratory Animal Science and Technology (LAS&T). Our Diploma courses follow on from IAT levels 1 – 3. We have split our qualification into three Diplomas (level 4-6) to allow students the freedom to progress to the level that suits them best. You will receive an IAT Diploma certificate upon completion of each year, culminating in a gaining a full IAT HE Diploma in LAS&T on completion of your third year. There is no obligation to complete all 3 years and you can take a break between levels, returning to study when the time is right for you.

## **What will I learn?**

Each level comprises 4 different learning units. Each unit will focus on a subject relating to animal research and/or the roles and responsibilities within an animal research facility. Each subject will help you develop key skills that will improve your performance in the workplace, provide you with a detailed understanding of the topic at hand and teach you how to apply those principles to improve animal welfare.

## **How long will I be studying?**

In part, how long you study for is up to you. Each Diploma is taught over 1 year, the 4 units will be taught in separate teaching blocks that typically run over 4 consecutive days. This way you do not have to make a weekly commitment to attending a teaching session and instead, can take a short break from work to complete the teaching block in just a few days. Units are usually spaced out over the year and because our Diplomas are split into individual levels, you will not be committed to 3 consecutive years of study and will achieve a Diploma certificate for each year completed.

Even though the taught classes are part-time, our expert tutors will always be available to support you in your studies through email, video calls or telephone.

## **How will a Diploma benefit me?**

Studying LAS&T diplomas will equip you with the knowledge needed to excel in the world of laboratory animal care and welfare. Our Diplomas are perfect for those working in animal research who want to take their career to the next step, especially if you aspire to achieve a supervisory or management position within a research facility. Our Diplomas cover topics ranging from animal biology and experimental design to the design and management of an animal facility. Complete all three levels in LAS&T to gain a full IAT HE Diploma and become eligible for IAT Fellowship.