

October Update

With only one month left to go we're pleased to say the project is rolling steadily onwards towards its goal. Since the last update we have progressed a long way. The Open Educational Resources we've gathered have been evaluated by the project team. In addition a selection of resources were reviewed by several volunteer veterinary surgeons via a Wordpress site. If you would like to see them for yourself please go to <http://vetgraduateer.wordpress.com/>. Feel free to leave your own reviews of the material.

Having decided that a readily accessible platform was needed to make the resources available, we are in the process of building a new website which will appear to sit within the Trust webpages, yet be situated on a separate server. There are several reasons for this but mainly it is so that we have the extra storage space needed and increased design flexibility. The website name is still being considered – the aim is for something easy to remember, but which doesn't overlap with other websites such as VetGrad. One suggestion, the 'Vet Survivor Guide,' or the 'VSG' was proffered at a recent focus group. If you have any ideas please email them to us at j.mcintyre@rcvstrust.org.uk.



The Focus group was a highly successful affair and will soon be followed by another. The aim of the group was to gain a deeper insight into new graduates' experiences during their first year in practice and their interpretation of what resources would be useful to them. The use of this type of research tool allows us to collect far richer information than could be obtained from surveys or interviews. We were not disappointed. As one person said it 'exceeded expectations'.

We are very pleased with the range of resources we have collected. Videos, podcasts, interactive tutorials, flash programmes and PDF documents are all on the new site. New OER are still being

considered and licensed, and our hope is that the website will remain dynamic, being updated and added to after the end of the project. The RCVS Charitable Trust will take care of the upkeep of the website so if you have anything (now or in the future) you wish to contribute please email the project manager Clare Boulton at c.boulton@rcvstrust.org.uk.

On a final note: make sure you read our article about the project which appeared in the Vet Record this week and keep an eye out for us on the RCVS stand at the London Veterinary Show on the 15th November.