It looks like a classroom to us.

Veterinary Nursing is the pacific

Laura Harvey* Dip. VN, BSc, PG Cert Vet Ed.
Rebecca Ladyman* BSc, BVSc
Kristie Cameron, MSc, PhD

*Unitec Institute of Technology, Auckland, New Zealand
 AUTHENTIC REAL-WORLD LEARNING

UNITEC INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Introduction

- Credit bearing course – week-long clinic
- In collaboration with South Pacific Animal Welfare
- Apply theory and skills they have learnt in class, to a high-pressure real world situation
- Alongside veterinarians and qualified veterinary nurses.
Introduction

- Students deal with primarily companion animals (cats and dogs)
Introduction

- Mostly desexing – occasionally something more complicated
• The odd pig/horse/other gets treated
Introduction

- Averaging almost 200 surgeries over the week.
- Sometimes in a village hall!
48 students have completed the trip, another 14 this year.
58% of those surveyed noted increased confidence was the main personal attribute gained from the trip.
Many others mentioned increased confidence with regard to their veterinary nursing abilities.
96% reported having learnt skills vital to their future success as a vet nurse.
Students helping students
Unique challenges
Unique challenges

DON'T TOUCH! MAN EATING COCKROACH !!!!
Time to relax
Conclusions

- The large majority of students gained an increased level of confidence in their abilities as a veterinary nurse.

- Students benefit both personally and professionally from their participation.
WHAT THEY SAID

I believe in myself now,

Made me a better vet nurse,

Learnt crucial skills

Amazing, positive experience

Learnt new skills,

By the end, I felt like a real nurse

I put all I had learnt to the test

Massive amount of hands-on experience