Seminar program

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Wednesday 18 February 2026 (All times are in AEDT)

12:00	**Welcome to Day 1**
	Official welcome: Richard Mussell Chief Executive Officer, RSPCA Australia
	Chair: Dr Suzanne Fowler Chief Science Officer, RSPCA Australia
12:10	**Opportunities and risks of digital technology on animal farms: a practical perspective**
	Speaker: Prof Janice Siegford Michigan State University
12:55	**What's artificial intelligence got to do with animals?**
	Speakers: Dr Simon Coghlan & Prof Christine Parker The University of Melbourne
13:35	**Virtual fencing – the good, the bad and the ugly**
	Speaker: Dr Helen Beattie Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa
14:15	**Break**
14:30	**Artificial intelligence in the abattoir to improve welfare outcomes**
	Speaker: Dr Dana Campbell CSIRO
15:10	**Innovating to replace, reduce and refine animal use in education**
	Speaker: Dr Megan Lucas The University of Melbourne
15:50	**Panel discussion:** **Ethical implementation of digital technology in farmed animal industries – strategies and barriers to progress**
	Panel: Day 1 Speakers
16:30	**Close**

Thursday 19 February 2026 (All times are in AEDT)

12:00	**Welcome to Day 2**
	Chair: Dr Suzanne Fowler Chief Science Officer, RSPCA Australia
12:05	**Improving feline welfare: The role of digital technology in pain detection**
	Speaker: Dr Natalie Lloyd Zoetis
12:45	**Improving the lives of zoo animals with digital technology: A historical and empirical perspective**
	Speaker: Dr Eduardo J. Fernandez The University of Adelaide
13:20	**Advancing cage-side welfare assessment: Automated monitoring technologies in laboratory animal research**
	Speaker: Assoc Prof Alexandra Whittaker The University of Adelaide
13:55	**Harnessing the power of cancer registries in veterinary care**
	Speaker: Prof Chiara Palmieri The University of Queensland
14:30	**Break**
14:50	**Use of drones in marine mammal research**
	Speaker: Dr Vanessa Pirotta Macquarie University
15:25	**Respecting data, strengthening care: Integrating digital solutions for remote animal health**
	Speaker: Dr Bonny Cumming AMRRIC
16:00	**From viral to harmful: Understanding animal cruelty content online**
	Speaker: Nicola O'Brien SMACC, Asia for Animals Coalition
16:40	**Close**

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