

SCAW Newsletter

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IACUC-Advanced Workshop
March 7, 2003
Clearwater Beach, FLorida

SCAW Winter Meeting in New Orleans

Sponsored by the Scientists Center for Animal Welfare (SCAW), the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare, NIH, the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and Tulane University ***Challenges in Laboratory Animal Research and IACUC Responsibility*** is an intensive two day conference that will provide information about laboratory animal welfare and various IACUC issues. The beautiful and historic Monteleone Hotel (in the French Quarter) in New Orleans, LA will house this educational meeting on **December 9-10, 2002.**

Breakout sessions will be held in the afternoon led by experts. The sessions will give participants the opportunity to examine the issues, learn techniques and discuss future developments relating to laboratory animal research and IACUCs. Listed below are some of the topics to be discussed:

- Federal Regulations and Guidelines
- USDA and FOIA Disclosures
- A Work Session for New, Nonaffiliated and Nonscientist IACUC Members
- Crisis and Emergency Planning Euthanasia Issues
- Can Enrichment Affect Study Outcomes?
- Invasive Procedures and Evaluation of Humane Care
- Industry Strategies to Enhance Animal Welfare
- How to Handle Non-Compliance from Investigating to Reporting to OLAW and USDA
- Why Endpoints are Essential

For program and registration information, please visit www.scaw.com

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Mission Statement

The Scientists Center for Animal Welfare (SCAW) is a non-profit educational association of individuals and institutions whose mission is to promote the best practices of humane care, use, and management of animals involved in research, testing or education in laboratory, agricultural, wildlife or other settings.

SCAW pursues its mission in several ways.

Principal among them are:

- Development, acceptance and implementation of the best practices for the promotion of animal welfare with the conviction that quality animal care and use both improves the quality of scientific results and engenders public support for scientific research.
- Provision of an ongoing forum for the exchange and evaluation of scientific information about the care, treatment, well-being and ethical use of animals.

Other initiatives of SCAW are:

- Encouragement of the development and adoption of effective and efficient standards and measures of performance standards.
- Employment of communications media to inform the scientific community, institutional officials, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees, institutional animal care personnel, public policy makers and the general public about the results of its activities.
- Cooperation with other groups, associations and agencies that have goals similar to those of SCAW.

SCAW Newsletter

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The SCAW Newsletter is published quarterly by the Scientists Center for Animal Welfare (SCAW), an educational association of individual and institutional members "promoting best practices in animal research and testing".

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Christine Stevens Memorial

Christine Stevens, President and founder of the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) recently passed away. Mrs Stevens was instrumental in founding SCAW in 1978-1979 and briefly served on the SCAW Board of Trustees.

AWI has issued the following press release (in part):

Christine Stevens established AWI primarily to end the cruel treatment of animals in experimental research laboratories. Over the following five decades she fought against cruel animal factory farms, the barbaric steel jaw leghold trap, commercial whaling, the slaughter of endangered species, and the burgeoning commercial killing of great apes.

Dr. Jane Goodall said, "Christine Stevens was a giant voice for animal welfare. Passionate, yet always reasoned, she took up one cause after another and she never gave up. Millions of animals are better off because of Christine's quiet and very effective advocacy. She will sorely be missed by all of us."

In 1955, sensing a need to make an impact in the legislative process, she founded the Society for Animal Protective Legislation (SAPL). At a time when only a handful of laws to protect animals were on the books, Mrs. Stevens' resolute efforts resulted in the passage of dozens of vital bills including the Humane Slaughter Act, the Animal Welfare Act, the Marine Mammal Protection Act, the Endangered Species Act and the Wild Bird Conservation Act.

"Christine exhibited an indefatigable determination to succeed that is unparalleled in our field and, I dare say, any other," added SAPL President, John Kullberg. "Nobody could be as charming and persuasive as she, and animals have today lost their greatest advocate on Capitol Hill."

"Mrs. Stevens *actually accomplished* more in her lifetime than most of us could ever even *aspire* to accomplish," said Ms. Liss. Her passionate defense of the creatures of the sea led to the beginning of the Save the Whales campaign in the 1970s. She spearheaded the campaign to ban the commercial trade of furs from animals caught in steel jaw leghold traps to and within the European Union. She lobbied successfully for an international ban on the commercial trade in elephant ivory at the United Nations Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

"Those who work for animal protection are referred to as 'animal advocates,'" added Ms. Liss. "Today we mourn the loss of the greatest advocate animals across the globe may ever know. We at AWI will continue Christine's work, forever motivated by her inspirational and fearless example."

She is survived by her daughter, Christabel Gough.

To the Editor:

In the SCAW Summer Newsletter John Salig reviewed the 43 page booklet, *Science and Conscience: The Animal Experimentation Controversy*, that was produced by the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education (NAHEE), the education arm of The Humane Society of the United States. Mr. Salig was complimentary about the general quality of HSUS publications (for which we thank him) but criticized this publication for not presenting the “facts properly” and for not trying hard enough to do so. I would like to assure Mr. Salig and the readers of the SCAW Newsletter that we did try to produce a suitably balanced publication and, in my view, we succeeded.

Mr. Salig criticizes us for not mentioning the AWA’s requirement that appropriate pain-killers be used. However, this requirement is described and emphasized in the section on the AWA (Mr. Salig also feels it comes too late in the publication - on page 32). He criticizes the booklet for stating that some of the dogs and cats that the dealers sell are acquired by answering “free to a good home” newspaper ads and claims that such a statement is more appropriate in a tabloid newspaper. In fact, past investigations do indicate that animal “bunchers” have used such ads as a way to acquire animals for later resale to dealers.

He criticizes the booklet for claiming “that ‘many’ teachers and students feel that dissection does little, if anything, to the understanding of biological processes” (sic), implying that “many” is the wrong qualifier. Dr William Mayer, an Executive Director of the Biological Sciences Curriculum Study and architect of the BSCS biology teaching texts is one of those who has been a strong critic of the “look-dissect-draw-label-memorize” dissection exercises. A 1991 survey of 468 British students, who had been through dissection exercises, reported that one-third said they had learned nothing from the classes and a further one third said they had only learned about structure. A 1982 survey of teachers by BSCS reported that 19% disagreed that every biology student should do a dissection.

He suggests that we should have had someone from SCAW review it. In fact, in one sense, someone from SCAW did review the publication because I was the final arbiter of the publication’s accuracy and balance. I have not only been a SCAW Board member but have also been a supporter of SCAW since its founding. I reject his finding that the booklet is one-sided and would argue that it is far more balanced than much of the material produced by the research establishment. The booklet is not weighed down with “melodramatic ‘facts’ that prejudices(sic) readers opinions” (as Salig claims) and we explicitly warn readers in a section on “How to Use This Book” that The HSUS’ “point of view will come through in the following pages.” We also warn the reader that there are a range of values coloring the facts and exhort him or her not to take our proposals or anyone else’s as the gospel truth, but rather “to investigate, analyze, and think for yourself about the issues.” If this constitutes “biasing our publication” then perhaps high school students need a little more bias and fewer “facts” masquerading as the Truth.

Andrew N. Rowan
Senior Vice President
The Humane Society of the United States

**See rebuttal
from Mr. Salig
on next page**

To the Editor:

I have just reread the response from Dr. Rowan on my review of the HSUS book, "*Science and Conscience: The Animal Experimentation Controversy*". Although I am sure that HSUS truly tried to produce a suitably balanced publication, I still stand by my review.

First, let me say that I have a tremendous amount of respect for Dr. Rowan and all he does for the welfare of animals. I have been following his work, and his writings, for a very long time. Unfortunately, this time, both he and HSUS missed the mark for objectivity.

There is no doubt that animal "bunchers" use false advertising to acquire animals for later resale, which is not only illegal, but heinous, depraved and a total abomination to true research. It is a deplorable situation that anyone with a reverence for animals loathe. This includes groups such as HSUS, SCAW, and AALAS. By not qualifying this statement with any reference to the fact that those of us in research who try and do what is right and follow the regulations to the letter, and are just as adamantly against this reprehensible activity as HSUS is, implies by omission, that these animals are used in legitimate research facilities on a regular basis. Many of you who are reading this know to what great extents we go to, to guarantee that the animals we use are legitimately procured.

Dr. Rowan cites my criticism of the qualifier "many" in regards to dissection. The numbers he then quotes justifies the term "many". My concern in the original review was using the term without supporting it with the kind of data Dr. Rowan quotes in his rebuttal. "Many" can have an extremely vague interpretation.

When I suggested that someone from SCAW review the booklet prior to publication, I meant someone who is unaffiliated with HSUS. I would have no problem with Dr. Rowan reviewing any book concerning animal welfare, in fact, he would be one of my first choices, but he is a dominant force in HSUS, and has a very similar mindset as the authors of the booklet. My suggestion was to propose someone who is involved in animal welfare, but not affiliated with HSUS review it, someone with a different mindset. Dr. Rowan is correct that much of the material produced by the research establishment is biased. Perhaps they should also have an "unaffiliated" member of the animal welfare community critique their writings before publication.

Most members of the research community, as with most members of non-research animal welfare groups are of one mind when it comes to the use of all animals in research; that is, the animals deserve the best care possible. This includes the proper procurement and humane use of them in a research setting. Anything past this is usually topics where we differ. We all read articles, books, pamphlets and booklets dealing with animal research with a prejudiced eye towards our own beliefs. When Dr. Rowan read the booklet, he read it with his own preconceptions about what was being said, (or what was not being said). When I read the booklet for review, I am guilty of the same. If each community started getting reviews of publications such as this booklet by someone "unaffiliated", as I suggested before, I would hope that we could make progress in the one area we both strive to improve.... improved animal well-being.

John Salig
Supervisor
Biomedical Research Facility



News from all over!

New Resource Offerings

e-mail from ICLAS

The *Merck Veterinary Resource Manual* is now available on the Internet. Merck notes that the manual is now the single most comprehensive electronic reference for animal care information and includes over 12,000 indexed topics and over 1200 illustrations. Information can be searched by topic, species, specialty, disease, and keyword using advanced search. Access the manual at <http://www.merckvetmanual.com/mvm/index.jsp>

The *Laboratory Animal Medicine Text 2nd Edition* is now available from Academic Press. The cost is \$199.95. A volume in the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine series, this second edition has 40% new material and covers the biological and disease aspects of laboratory animal medicine. Editors include James G. Fox of M.I.T., Lynn C. Anderson of Merck, Franklin M. Lowe of Becker College, and Fred W. Quimby of Rockefeller University. The book can be ordered on the Internet at <http://www.apcatalog.com/>

UFAW 'Tesco' Award

e-mail from UFAW

The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW) is working with Tesco to launch a new £1000 prize for the piece of published or broadcast work which best communicates to a wide audience the importance and value of animal welfare research.

Animal welfare has become a matter of great public concern, and not infrequently, public controversy. Public attitudes to the welfare needs of animals however are often based more on emotion than on science. Both the processes and the findings of animal welfare research are not always well communicated outside the scientific and technical community. UFAW and Tesco are working together to promote better understanding of animal welfare science through this new award: Promoting Public Understanding of Animal Welfare Science: The UFAW 'Tesco' Award.

The prize will be awarded for the best work in the English language, which conveys the important contribution of the scientific approach to understanding animal welfare issues. Subjects could include research with companion, zoo or wild animals or any animal used in our service. How can science help us to understand such animals' needs? How can it help us to be sure that we are doing the best for animal welfare? How can it help us to determine when things are going wrong? Applicants may submit copies of either i) articles published or ii) material broadcast during the year preceding the deadline for receipt of application, which is 15th November 2002. Application forms are available on application to: The Secretary, UFAW, The Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, Hertfordshire AL4 8AN, UK. Tel: 01582 831818 Email: ufaw@ufaw.org.uk. For further information on this award, please contact: Dr Stephen Wickens, Development Officer. Tel/ Fax: 01276 500880; Email: wickens@ufaw.org.uk

MSMR Appoints Alan B. Dittrich as President

e-mail from MSMR

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Society for Medical Research, Inc. (MSMR), announces the appointment of Alan B. Dittrich as President. Mr. Dittrich brings to the Society extensive experience in education and publishing, as well as communications and marketing in for-profit, non-profit and agency settings. Most recently, he was Director of Prospect Development at Brown University. The MSMR Board of Directors is confident he will provide strong leadership to support the Society's multifaceted member and outreach programs in service to and for the advancement of the life science research community.

Leslie Nader, Ph.D., who has served the Society for many years as Vice President for Education, will assume the position of Executive Vice President. Lynne Walsh, formerly Director of Member Services, will now serve as Vice President for Programs and Membership.

TOXicology Data NETwork

TOXNET® (TOXicology Data NETwork) is a computerized system of files oriented to toxicology and related areas. It is managed by the National Library of Medicine's (NLM) Toxicology and Environmental Health Information Program (TEHIP) and runs on Sun servers in a UNIX-based environment. TOXNET provides a free Web-based interface that permits easy searching of files. For detailed information on TOXNET, contact: Specialized Information Services, National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20894, Telephone: (301) 496-6531
e-mail: toxmail@toxnetmail.nlm.nih.gov <http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov>

IPCS Press Release and Report

e-mail from ICCVAM

ICCVAM would like to inform you of the IPCS (The International Programme on Chemical Safety, sponsored by the World Health Organization) press release, "Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals: New Publication Shows Need For Further Research," which is available on the WHO web site at the following location: http://www.who.int/pcs/emerg_site/edc/pub_notice.html and announces the release of a report entitled "Global Assessment of the State-of-the-Science of Endocrine Disruptors" (WHO/PCS/EDC/02.2). The global comprehensive review can be viewed on the "New @ IPAC" page at http://www.who.int/pcs/pcs_new.html, or as individual chapters linked from the Table of Contents at: http://www.who.int/pcs/emerg_site/edc/global_edc_TOC.htm.

Documents on the web are in PDF and can be viewed with Acrobat Reader. Printed copies of the report can be obtained by contacting:

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**United Way/
Combined Federal Campaign
#0877**

Donors can use this number to contribute to SCAW

Article on Disaster Recovery

e-mail from OLAW

OLAW Director Nelson Garnett, and Carol Alderson, Assistant Grants Policy Officer, Office of Policy for Extramural Research Administration (OPERA), both of the NIH Office of Extramural Research, have co-authored an article published in the September 2002 issue of Lab Animal entitled "Disaster Recovery: 'Who ya gonna call?'" The article outlines the responsibilities of NIH funded animal research institutions when dealing with recovery from a disaster, and identifies areas in which OLAW and OPERA can aid the affected institution in the recovery effort.

Lab Animal has posted the article at: <http://www.labanimal.com/iacuc/garnett0902.pdf>

HSUS Presents 2002 Russell & Burch Award

e-mail from HSUS

NEW ORLEANS (August 14, 2002) - In an awards ceremony held at the Fourth World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences on August 14th, The Humane Society of the United States bestowed its 2002 Russell & Burch Award to Dr. David Morton for his pioneering work in developing and promoting refinement measures that minimize animal pain and distress in research.

Dr. Morton is Professor and Head of the Department of Biomedical Science and Biomedical Ethics at the University of Birmingham in England. He also serves as the Director of the University's Unit of Biomedical Services, which provides laboratory animal management services. Through his research, writings, and participation in alternatives conferences and other professional activities, Dr. Morton has been one of the world's leading figures in the field of refinement since the 1980s.

Dr. Morton was a pioneer in the area of refinement known as "humane endpoints." This approach allows scientists to halt experiments that cause animal suffering when certain behaviors or symptoms indicate that death or extreme suffering would result if the researcher were to complete the experiment.

The award, which carries a \$5,000 prize, is named in honor of William M. Russell and Rex L. Burch, the scientists who formulated the Three Rs approach of replacement, reduction, and refinement. The award is bestowed every three years at the World Congresses on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences, which this year was held in New Orleans and was being hosted primarily by The HSUS. Candidates for the award are judged on the scientific merit of their contribution to the alternatives field and on their professional commitment to this field.

For more information, visit The HSUS' Web site - www.hsus.org.

ALTBIB

e-mail from National Library of Medicine

In response to the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) Authorization Act of 2000, the Specialized Information Services Division at NLM is releasing ALTBIB, a special database for alternatives to animal testing. This bibliographic database features citations concerning methods, tests, and procedures that refine, reduce, and replace animal testing. The database contains 7,595 citations from TOXLINE and MEDLINE database searches. ALTBIB will be an excellent resource for research scientists in the toxicology and biomedical fields, teachers, chemical and pharmaceutical industries, government regulatory agencies, and animal welfare groups.

Please visit the ALTBIB Website at: <http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/altbib.html>

Seminars at the University of Pennsylvania

e-mail from U of PA

This is to inform you that there will be no Laboratory Animal Medicine seminars at the University of Pennsylvania this year. I will be on sabbatical for the entire 2003 year, during which time I will be spending at least five months at Cambridge University in England studying the system of animal welfare assurance in the United Kingdom as a Fulbright scholar. During this time, we will not be providing postdoctoral residency training in laboratory animal medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and will not be scheduling our usual weekly seminars.

I will return from sabbatical in 2004 and expect that the seminars and training program will resume at that time. We appreciate your support of and participation in this program over the past years and will keep you informed of our plans.

Please pass this information on to others in your institution and area who might be interested.

Sincerely yours,
Harry Rozmiarek, DVM, PhD
Professor and Chief
Laboratory Animal Medicine

Personal Safety for Biomedical Professionals

e-mail from MSMR

The MSMR is pleased to announce its December 2002 professional development offering, STREET SMARTS®: Personal Safety for Biomedical Professionals. Within the current research climate as regards aggressive activism, biomedical professionals, non-scientific employees of research institutions, and employees of client and vendor companies have found themselves to be the targets of activist agendas. Designed for biomedical professionals and those supporting the research endeavor, the December workshop will offer practical guidance and hands-on practice regarding personal safety in the workplace, at home, and in the community.

STREET SMARTS® will be held December 5, 2002 at the Massachusetts Medical Society Conference Center in Waltham MA. For questions, contact the MSMR at 978.251.1556 or msmr@att.net.

Meeting Announcements

e-mail from ICLAS

The **Australasian Primate Society** will be holding its annual meeting and conference at Melbourne Zoo (Melbourne, Australia) on December 6-8, 2002. For details and to download a registration form, please visit www.primates.on.net.

The **Xth Brazilian Primate Congress**, originally scheduled for August 25-30, 2002, has been delayed until November 15-20, 2002. For information, contact Secretaria Geral: Vanner Boere, CFS/IB, Univ. de Brasilia, 70910-900 Brasilia, DF, Brasil [(0)61 3072294/3072887; Fax: (0)61 2741251; e-mail:vanner@unb.br].

Science in the Service of Animal Welfare, a Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW) symposium, will be held April 2-4, 2003, in Edinburgh, Scotland. For further details, or if you would like to present a paper/poster, or wish to register interest in attending, please contact the Scientific Officer, UFAW, e-mail: scioff@ufaw.org.uk; or visit www.ufaw.org.uk.

The **Scientists Center for Animal Welfare Annual Winter Meeting** will be held December 8-9, 2003, in San Antonio, Texas. For more information, visit www.scaw.com; or contact 301-345-3500; e-mail: info@scaw.com

Continuing Education Courses @ SUNY Delhi

e-mail from SUNY Delhi

Telemetry Techniques

Nov. 16, Saturday Session 1 - 8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Nov. 16, Saturday Session 2 - 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Maximum enrollment 20 per session

Registration Fee: \$175 - CEU: 0.4

This is a small animal implantable telemetry workshop that will emphasize the hands-on learning of advance implantation techniques. Attendees will implant BP and ECG transmitter training modules in mouse models. This course is sponsored by *Data Sciences International*.

Intermediate Level Urogenital Cytology

Nov. 16, Saturday 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Maximum enrollment 10

Registration Fee: \$75.00 - CEU: 0.6

Cell identification, influences of patient handling, the veterinary technician care plan, specimen collection and handling are the topics of this workshop.

This course is for Credentialed Veterinary Technicians and Laboratory Animal Technicians who have had a college level course that included urogenital cytology and techniques.

LATG Review Course

June 1-6, 2003

Keep checking our website for additional Spring 2003 courses WWW.VETSCI.DELHI.EDU

Questions, Comments or Concerns?

Jackie Howard, SUNY Delhi,

Phone: 607-746-4305

Fax: 607-746-4409

Email: howardja@delhi.edu

Correction

"The Use of Animals in Higher Education" published by the Humane Society Press was mentioned in a review in the SCAW Newsletter Volume 23-Number4-Winter 01. Since the newsletter has been printed, we have updated our website and "The Use of Animals in Higher Education" is now available at: <http://www.hsus.org/ace/13059>

Planned Giving

SCAW wishes to thank everyone who has made a donation in the past two decades. Without this financial support, SCAW could not promote best practices in animal research and testing. Planned giving is another way to continue to support SCAW's efforts. Many of us will provide for our families, friends and even pets. We hope that you will consider including SCAW in your planned giving program.

There are many ways, some of them simple, to help your favorite non-profit charities, like SCAW. Entry level planned giving can include outright contributions of properties or transfer of monies or property by will or bequest. There are other special estate planning tools that require consultation with a professional estate planner and/or lawyer.

A sample form for a simple bequest is as follows: I give, devise, and bequeath to the Scientists Center for Animal Welfare, a tax exempt organization located at 7833 Walker Drive, Suite 410, Greenbelt, MD 20770, (state percentage of estate, or residue, or sum of money, or otherwise describe property) to be used for/by the SCAW for general (or state specific) purposes.

Jim Foster named "Entrepreneur of the Year" by Forbes

e-mail from AMP

Jim Foster, Chairman and CEO of Charles River Laboratories International, has just been named Forbes Magazine's "Entrepreneur of the Year." The article is online now at http://www.forbes.com/free_forbes/2002/1028/228.html

Letter from Dr. Alan Goldberg

e-mail from Altweb

Dear colleagues and friends,

Now that the academic year is underway, I wanted to take a moment to share with you some remarkable news that reflects positively on both Johns Hopkins and our Center: A select committee of the British parliament's House of Lords has recommended the establishment of a UK center, based upon the CAAT model.



Earlier this year, I was invited to appear before the House of Lords to discuss our work at CAAT, and my own efforts on behalf of the Three Rs internationally. This invitation followed a formal visit by the committee to Baltimore and The Johns Hopkins University last spring. In my statement, I acknowledged that laboratory animals are—and will continue to be—necessary for much research, but I emphasized the need to minimize or eliminate pain and distress in *in vivo* experiments through the Three Rs of replacement, reduction, and refinement. I

also explained how an alternatives center can be the right platform for achieving consensus, collaboration, and progress.

The committee's recommendation is the product of a year of investigation, hearings, and consultations with a wide range of representatives from both the research and the animal protection communities from both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. This process was summarized in a report: "Animals in Scientific Procedures."

The complete 82-page report is available online on the parliamentary web site: <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld/ldanimal.htm>

In the report, the committee wrote, "We recommend that a Centre for the Three Rs be set up, consisting of a small, administrative hub which co-ordinates research units embedded in existing centres of scientific excellence," and added, "In making this specific recommendation we have been particularly influenced by our visit to the Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing (based at Johns Hopkins University in the United States), the evidence we received from ECVAM and the OECD, and the conference we held towards the end of our evidence gathering with representatives from industry, funding bodies, and animal welfare and rights groups."

I appeared before the committee on April 23. You can read my statement online at <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200102/ldselect/ldanimal/999/2042302.htm>

As CAAT begins its 22nd year, we still believe that our approach to enhancing humane science through the Three Rs is the right one. Participating in the House of Lords investigation reconfirmed for me that we are on the right track.

Best regards,



Alan M. Goldberg, PhD

P.S. If you would like to read more about the House of Lords report and reactions to it, a number of news stories are available online. They are listed with the news item about the report, on Altweb at <http://altweb.jhsph.edu>

NIH Funding Establishes a Chimpanzee Sanctuary

Bethesda, Maryland (September 30, 2002) -The National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced today the award of a contract to Chimp Haven, Inc., a private, non-profit organization, to establish and operate a chimpanzee sanctuary. The sanctuary will provide lifetime care for Federally owned or supported chimpanzees that are no longer needed for biomedical research. The contractor will maintain high standards for quality care and ensure state-of-the-art treatment of the chimpanzees.

The ten-year, cost-sharing contract was awarded by the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR), a component of NIH. Over the term of the contract, NCRR will provide approximately \$19 million in total costs, and Chimp Haven will contribute approximately \$4 million toward direct costs. Chimp Haven was selected for the contract through a competitive, technical review process conducted by a group of outside experts in the fields of nonhuman primate management, behavioral sciences, and veterinary medical care.



Chimp Haven, Inc. will construct the new sanctuary near Shreveport, Louisiana, on land donated by county government. Separate from the contract funding, NCRR also will award a \$5 million grant to Chimp Haven to support construction costs. The construction, which is expected to be completed in Spring 2004, will initially provide housing in a free-ranging environment for approximately 75 chimpanzees.

No invasive biomedical research will be permitted at the sanctuary; yet, NCRR and Chimp Haven have agreed that the sanctuary will be periodically inspected by the USDA and will comply with animal welfare regulations.

More chimpanzees may need to be transferred from research facilities to the sanctuary environment, but additional facilities will be needed to accommodate them. Accordingly, Chimp Haven is authorized to either expand its sanctuary facility or to serve as a primary contractor to additional qualified sanctuary sites to be maintained by subcontractors. The sanctuary system will operate under standards established jointly by an NCRR advisory panel and the Chimp Haven Board of Directors. Both groups are composed of individuals with broad expertise in areas that relate to the operation of a chimpanzee sanctuary. Once developed, the sanctuary's operating standards will be made available for public comment before being implemented.

A sanctuary system to provide for the lifetime care of retired research chimpanzees was mandated by The Chimpanzee Health Improvement, Maintenance, and Protection (CHIMP) Act of December 2000. The contract between NCRR and Chimp Haven addresses the specific requirements of the CHIMP Act (Public Law 106-551).

To contact the Chimp Haven Communications Office, call: Karen Allen at 703-567-4978 or 318-425-0002.

HSUS Offers Comment on NIH Grant (above)

Washington, DC (September 30, 2002) - The Humane Society of the United States today released the following reaction and comment on the announcement that the National Institutes of Health has awarded a grant for providing a sanctuary to chimpanzees formerly used in medical research to Chimp Haven of Shreveport, La.



"The Humane Society of the United States is pleased to see the federal government beginning to pay its debt of gratitude to chimpanzees who have endured years of medical research," said Dr. Andrew Rowan, HSUS senior vice president for research, education and international issues. "We were strong supporters of the CHIMP Act of 2000, which mandates a national sanctuary system for chimpanzees no longer used in research. Today, we are very encouraged that this sanctuary system will become a reality and that Chimp Haven was chosen to run that system. Chimp Haven is an organization made up of professionals who are very committed to doing what is best for the chimpanzees."

The HSUS was instrumental in the passage of the legislation that called on the federal government to fund a system of retirement facilities for chimps no longer used in research.

For more information, visit The HSUS' Web site - www.hsus.org.

How Will International Standards Drive U.S. Regulations ?

The Council of Europe, the European Union and Animal Welfare

Anne-Dominique Degryse, DVM/Service de Zootechnie/Centre de Recherche Pierre Fabre

Europe has a long-standing history on the protection of animals. The first organization to protest animal experimentation was the Society for the Protection of Animals Liable to Vivisection, created in the UK in 1875. Some of the animal rights movements, created since, have become very organized in their opposition and have claimed, through lobbying, to ban animal experiments.

The Council of Europe (CoE), created in 1949 has 43 Member States. Its goal is to achieve greater unity between its Members in order to safeguard and promote ideas and principles that are common, and to encourage economical and social progress. The primary tools of the CoE are Conventions, which are Treaties (ETS) concluded between Members States.

Conventions do not, by definition, have the force of law, but they do exert a considerable moral pressure, especially in CoE countries for whom the Convention is the only pan-European agreement. Nevertheless, once a Member State ratifies a Convention, it becomes a 'Party' and is bound to be implemented as national law.

In 1986, the CoE adopted the European Convention ETS 123 for the protection of vertebrate animals used for experimental and other scientific purposes.

The European Union (EU), set up in 1957, is composed of 15 Member States, who are also Members of the Council of Europe. In a similar way to the CoE, the EU adopts Directives. The major difference however, resides in the fact that, once issued, a Directive automatically has to be implemented in Member States : there is an obligation to observe the requirements of a Directive by translating it (usually within 2 years) into national laws, and to implement it as a minimum standard.

The same year of the European Convention ETS 123, i.e. 1986, the European Union issued Directive 86/609/EC on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States regarding the protection of animals used for experimental and others scientific purposes. The standards of housing and care for laboratory animals set out in this Directive were based on the Convention ETS 123.

Since the CoE is not a regulating body, there exists a risk that Parties may differ in their interpretation of certain provisions and terms. To minimize differences and ensure consistency, the CoE allows for Multilateral Consultation of Conventions that examine both the application of the Convention, and the advisability of revising it or extending any of its provisions. Once final conclusions are reached, it becomes a Resolution.

Since 1992, already four different Resolutions which affect ETS 123 have been adopted by Multilateral Consultations. These Resolutions concern the interpretation of certain terms and provisions of the Convention, i.e., the care and use of laboratory animals, education and training of persons working with laboratory animals, and acquisition and transport of laboratory animals.

In 1998, twelve years after its first opening for signature, the EU ratified the European Convention ETS 123, thereby binding its 15 Member States to implementation. The standards of accommodation and care for laboratory animals set out in the Directive and in Appendix A of the Convention ETS 123 are identical.

Furthermore, and astonishingly enough, with minor exceptions, the standards and space recommendations for the housing of different laboratory animal species in the Appendix A are very similar to those specified in the '*Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*' NRC (1996).

con't. on page 14



con't. from page 13

The Fourth Multilateral Consultation of ETS 123, which concerns Appendix A : 'Guidelines for the accommodation and care of animals' has been programmed, and recommendations are projected to become finalized by the end of 2002 - first part of 2003.

Participants to the Multilateral Consultation are not only Member States who have ratified the Convention and other CoE Member States, but also observers, among whom a number of national (Canada, Japan, USA) and non-governmental bodies (FELASA, EBRA, EFAT, Eurogroup for Animal Welfare FVE, EFPIA, etc.).

The major changes anticipated concern space recommendations and enrichment, but will also focus on modification of the monitoring of care and use of animals.

The following is an example of actual proposed cage changes for rabbits :

- currently, ETS 123 Appendix A states that the minimum floor surface and cage height for a rabbit of 2 kg needs to be **2000 cm²** and **30 cm**, respectively.
- Proposed changes under discussion are

'To preferably use rectangular cages, but within all cages a raised area must be provided. This shelf should allow the animal to lie and sit on and easily move underneath, but should not cover more than 40% of the floor space. While the cage height should be sufficient for the rabbit to sit upright without its ears touching the roof of the cage, this degree of clearance is not considered necessary for the raised area. If there are good scientific or veterinary reasons for not using the shelf, then cage size must be 33% larger for a single rabbit.'

*Proposed minimum floor area for a rabbit of the same body weight (2 kg) is **3500 cm²**, minimum cage height **45 cm**.'*

By definition, modification of cage sizes will have a major impact on the possibilities for housing of laboratory animals. Not only will investment budgets need to be astronomical, but the new housing conditions will certainly modify scientific data and thus render comparison with previous data difficult. Furthermore, once the Resolution is adopted, Parties could refute research data obtained under certain housing conditions (i.e., conditions other than those specified in the Resolution), which might lead to a knock-out effect on industries and universities in countries not adhering to the rules - even though they may have solid standards of best practice and performance.

Multilateral Consultations are meant to facilitate harmonized implementation of the Convention for all Parties, but it is equally important to stress that *other* participants are invited to comment on the proposals. The subject of this Multilateral Consultation should interest not only those opposed to animal experimentation, but also those who feel there are scientific and social benefits in animal experimentation.

It is left to the Group of Experts to provide scientifically based justification for the new proposals ; this is to ensure that the latter are not exclusively exposed to any pressure that may be exerted by animal welfare groups.

The process of validated performance and best practice is likely to make the CoE accept new standards. This in turn may well influence legislation for the housing and care of animals in other countries. Specifics on the differences of the existing European legislation and comparison with the US legislation will be detailed, and the impact of possible amendments of ETS 123 will be open for discussion.

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IACUC-Advanced Workshop

The Scientists Center for Animal Welfare (SCAW) has developed a new, *advanced* program to train members of Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees (IACUC): **IACUC-Advanced**.

Following the success of the first workshop in Philadelphia, SCAW has three workshops planned for 2003. The second workshop held in LaJolla, CA on October 11 had over 125 attendees (see photographs below). This workshop was sponsored by WARDS, OLAW and TSRI.

IACUC-Advanced is developed around Cores I, II, and III. This format will let small groups discuss specific, complex topics that are relevant to IACUC functions, and will focus on advanced training for IACUC members. These workshops are for experienced IACUC members and others who work with laboratory animals. Attendance at an entry-level workshop such as IACUC 101, or three years experience as a member of an IACUC is recommended as a prerequisite to **IACUC-Advanced**. For more information about any of the IACUC-Advanced workshops or to sponsor one at your institution, please contact the SCAW office 301-345-3500, info@scaw.com, www.scaw.com

2003 Locations/Dates of IACUC-Advanced Workshops

Clearwater Beach, FL

March 7, 2003

Adams Mark Hotel

Minneapolis, MN

June 2, 2003

University of Minnesota
McNamara Alumni Center

Bethesda, MD

October 28, 2003

National Institutes of Health
Natcher Conference Center

John G. Miller, D.V.M.

Dr. Miller is Executive Director of the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC International) and also serves on the SCAW Board of Trustees. He assumed the position at AAALAC after retiring from Federal service, having spent over 16 years in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps followed by 10 years in the Public Health Service (PHS). His PHS service was with the National Institutes of Health's Office for Protection from Research Risks (OPRR). While at OPRR, Dr. Miller became the first Director of the Division of Animal Welfare, and was instrumental in achieving congruence of USDA's Animal Welfare Regulations with the PHS Animal Welfare Policy and the National Academy of Sciences *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*. He retired as OPRR's Deputy Director. Dr. Miller received his DVM degree from The Ohio State University, did postgraduate work in Comparative Pathology at the University of California, Davis, and is an Honors Graduate of the U.S. Army's Command and General Staff College. He is a Diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine and an avid, albeit infrequent, fly fisherman.

Friends of SCAW



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