

# Research Resources

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Welcome to the second issue of *Research Resources*. I hope you enjoyed the previous issue. This will be sent out to Active Project Directors, but I encourage you to share this with all your staff, and, if any want to be included in the mailing, have them send a request to [stacy.wells@louisville.edu](mailto:stacy.wells@louisville.edu). If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, you may send your items to the same address.

## Animal Transfers

While the transfer of live animals from one protocol to another is encouraged to reduce the number of animals used for research, teaching, and educational purposes, several important considerations are required. An animal order form must be completed and turned in at the same location you turn in your animal orders from vendors. The animals you may receive from other researchers must be deducted from your animal usage in the same way that animals that are ordered are removed. Filling out an animal order/transfer form also helps the care technician know where new animals that suddenly appear in their rooms have come from. Your cooperation on this matter, as always, is greatly appreciated.

## New Resource Manual

The **American Physiological Society (APS)** announces the publication of a *Resource Book for the Design of Animal Exercise Protocols*. It is intended for researchers, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees (IACUCs), and those involved with research oversight. The authoring committee, which was comprised of exercise physiologists and laboratory animal veterinarians, reviewed reference material and drew upon their own experience to compile suggestions about how to design, review, and implement experimental paradigms involving animals and exercise. A PDF of the book is available online at the [APS web site](#).

## A Special Thanks!

I would like to offer a special thank you to all who participated in the Technician Appreciation Video. It was really enjoyed by those who don't always know how much their work means to your studies.

## Ode to the Laboratory Animal Technician by Laurie Goodchild

She arrives in the darkness, day after day,  
With dedication that is equaled by few.  
To care for her animals, cage upon cage,  
None able to utter "thank you".

The cage change, the feeding, the cleaning,  
the dosing,  
Their attention must continue without fail  
And although there are days when  
appreciation is scarce,  
He smiles at the wag of a tail.

The noisy steel rack complains down the  
hall,  
He fights it, so straight it will steer.  
To cage wash it goes,  
Steam, heat, and more cages,  
No end is in sight it appears

A heartless soul who does not care?  
I'm afraid there are those who would say.  
But they do not know how she tends to their  
needs,  
And calls them by name every day.

Be grateful to those who show the most care,  
For creatures with valuable purpose.  
Their dedication and commitment to lab  
animals everywhere,  
Reveals hearts that are doubtlessly  
generous.

### Online Training Opportunities

The AALAS Learning Library, or ALL, provides training that is essential for technicians, veterinarians, managers, IACUC members, and investigators working with animals in a research or education setting.

Emphasizing the appropriate handling, care, and use of animals, the courses are designed to help you study for AALAS certification, meet training mandates of regulatory agencies, and improve your knowledge in technical areas.

The AALAS Learning Library organizes courses in libraries according to topic area or source of the material. Current available libraries are as follows:

#### **1. The Animal Care and Use Library**

has courses on certification, regulatory mandates, bioethics, bi methodologies, biosafety, and management.

Enrollment in this library for individuals or groups gives a one-year access to all courses in this library. Groups may purchase library accounts in packages of 7, 15, 30, 50, 75, 150 or >150.

Course activity is recorded in the transcript on the AALAS Learning Library.

#### **2. The Contemporary Topics CEU Test Library**

offers you the opportunity to earn continuing education units (CEUs) by taking the self-administered test based on the scientific articles in *Contemporary Topics* online. These tests are published six times a year. The online test questions are the same as the questions published in each issue of *Contemporary Topics*. New questions will be posted online after each issue has been printed and mailed. The test for each issue will remain available for two months, after which the questions for the next issue will be posted. Answers to the previous issue's questions are also posted.

Enrollment in this library is free - you do not need to purchase an account. However, you must be enrolled in the AALAS Learning Library to take advantage of the

documentation and transcript features (\$100/year for AALAS members).

If you are already enrolled in the Animal Care and Use Library, either as an individual member or as a member of a group, all you need to do is go to the Libraries link and click on the Contemporary Topics CEU Test Library.

To take the test, read the scientific articles in the most recent issue of *Contemporary Topics* and then click on the exam link and follow the instructions to begin answering the questions. If you answer a question incorrectly, you may retake the test. A 70% score is required to pass.

#### **Free Courses**

In the Animal Care and Use Library, you may access for **free** a sample of the topics available to see how the courses and exams operate. The free courses are the ones with active links before you log in.

To access the free courses, enter the Animal Care and Use Library, select a course or exam with an active link, and simply click NEXT to proceed past the login page.

**Please note:** Completion of a free course will not generate data for a transcript. To receive CEUs and transcript documentation, you must be logged in and must have an active account in this library. When you are logged in, all courses and exams will have active links and all will generate transcripts and CEUs. When you purchase an account to the Animal Care and Use Library, your transcript will include your training records from your activity in the free courses.

### AALAS Offers Two Scientific Journals

The American Association offers two Scientific Journals (Comparative Medicine and JAALAS, formerly Contemporary Topics) which publish papers about research and discoveries in Laboratory Animal Medicine. The RRC has many of the past years issues in two of its libraries. If anyone would like to look over some of these, please ask Dr. King, Ralph, or any of the supervisors as we keep copies in the RRF libraries. Below is a description of both contents of both Journals.

**Comparative Medicine (CM)**, an international journal of comparative and experimental medicine, is the leading

English-language publication in the field and is ranked by the Science Citation Index in the upper third of all scientific journals. It seeks to advance knowledge about comparative medicine and laboratory animal science through the publication of scholarly articles about animal models, animal biology, laboratory animal medicine, laboratory animal pathology, animal behavior, animal biotechnology, and related topics. The journal invites reports and reviews about basic and applied laboratory investigations, clinical investigations, and case studies. It also welcomes informed and thoughtful opinions relevant to the humane care and use of laboratory animals.

The journal is published six times a year: February, April, June, August, October, and December. A winner of three national awards, Comparative Medicine is indexed in Index Medicus. Dr. Linda Toth of Southern Illinois University School of Medicine is the editor in chief over Comparative Medicine and JAALAS; Dr. Ravi Tolwani of Stanford University School of Medicine is the associate editor for CM. The production office for the journal is located at the AALAS national office in Memphis, TN. For more information about the journal, **contact AALAS**.

**Journal of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (JAALAS)** serves as an official communication vehicle for the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS). The journal includes a section of refereed articles and a section of AALAS association news.

All signed articles, including refereed articles and book reviews, editorials, committee reports, and news and commentary, reflect the individual views of the authors and are not official views of AALAS. The mission of the refereed section of the journal is to disseminate high-quality, peer-reviewed information on animal biology, technology, facility operations, management, and compliance as relevant to the AALAS membership. Reflecting this mission, the journal title has changed, effective with the first issue of 2006, to Journal of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (JAALAS). All topics previously included in CT will continue to be appropriate content for submission to JAALAS as either research

reports (data-based) or scholarly reports (literature-based), with the caveat that all articles, including solicited manuscripts, must include appropriate references and must undergo peer review.

The journal is published six times a year: January, March, May, July, September, and November. Dr. Linda Toth of Southern Illinois University School of Medicine is the editor in chief over Comparative Medicine and JAALAS; Dr. Susan Compton of Yale University is the associate editor for JAALAS. The production office for the journal is located at the AALAS national office in Memphis, TN. For more information about the journal, **contact us**.

### A Call for Abstracts

If you would like to submit an abstract for the 2006 National AALAS Meeting, the [Call for Abstracts and Topic Suggestions \(pdf\)](#) is now available. After reviewing the PDF, submit your abstracts and session synopses online at <http://aalas.abstractcentral.com> using AALAS's new online submission system. Please refer to the Important Dates at the bottom right of this page for submission deadlines.