

Research Resources

"We can judge the heart of a man by his treatment of animals."....Immanuel Kant

Vol. II, No. 2

January 2007

Research Resources will be sent out to Active Project Directors, but I encourage you to share this will all your staff, and, if any want to be included in the mailing, have them send a request to stacy.wells@louisville.edu. If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, you may send your items to the same address.

Tech Appreciation Week January 28th – February 3rd

This year the Technician Appreciation Week theme is "An Essential Piece of the Research Team." Please let your Animal Technician know just how essential you think they are. If you need any ideas on how to do this, just call me. I have lists and lists of ways to show your appreciation. In this issue of Research Resources, I have included an article written by Yvonne Harper of City of Hope. I hope you enjoy it.

Do You Know Who Your Technicians Are?

Day in and day out we walk past some of the same smiling faces we see in the hallways and animal rooms. Who are these technicians moving about in the facility, changing cages, racks and performing a number of duties? What do some of these technicians do and how do they impact the day to day function of our animal programs? Technicians come from all walks of life, some with educational backgrounds, unique life skills and even certifications in the field. There are technicians who work while concurrently pursue a degree program, some from general fields, some science or even veterinary medicine. Technicians bring a varied background from previous vocations related to public service, medicine and other service oriented fields. Many bring skills such as organization, observation, nurturing and a hard working ethic to an animal facility. Today, our field is recognized for all that it has to offer veterinary medicine and research by providing certification programs through the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS). Technicians vary in both background and skill level. One may see a technician

performing cage changing on a daily basis, but may also perform duties that include: Tail bleeding, teeth trimming, breeding, fostering, injections of many routes, gavauging, harvesting of tissues and organs. There are technicians who are proficient in surgical procedures such as vasectomies, c-sections, and assisting with general surgeries and implants, while others have the patience and skill to handle difficult animals. What we don't always see is the gentle balance between the technician and the animals. Technicians are most often the first to befriend and stabilize fractious temperaments when the animal comes to trust the technician and feels safe in their presence through sight, smell and sound. The impact of a technician working directly with the animal is very important to the behavior of the animal and the research itself. Not only is it important to provide a safe, dry environment for the animals, but also to provide a place in which the physical parameters are stable and stress free. Most of us are keenly aware of how important it is to keep animals fairly content and reasonably happy because it has a definite effect on the well being of the animal and the outcome of one's research. If an animal is stressed in anyway, their blood chemistries will be evidence of this aspect. Animal programs work hard to reduce these variables that in turn result in good science. Your technicians use their keen observation skills to detect these subtle changes in your animal rooms and research. In general, we find that our technicians are very important for all that they contribute to a good animal program. Their skills are unlimited and versatile, their backgrounds as varied as their interest in the different types of research conducted. We all rely on

the skills of our technicians to observe and communicate with animals and staff for a greater good. For all that they do, we are grateful to have such wonderfully well rounded and talented individuals working in the field today. We thank you all for what you do and wish you a happy laboratory technician week!

This year's theme is "An Essential Piece of the Research Team." Please let your Animal Technician know just how essential you think they are. If you need any ideas, just call. I have lists and lists of ways to show your appreciation.

Level II Training

The following is the list of dates and times that Level II training will be offered:

2007

Monday, February 5th at 10:00 AM
Thursday, March 1st at 1:30 PM
Monday, April 2nd at 10:00 AM
Thursday, May 3rd at 1:30 PM
Monday, June 4th at 10:00 AM
Thursday, July 5th at 1:30 PM
Monday, August 6th at 10:00 AM
Thursday, September 6th at 1:30 PM
Monday, October 1st at 10:00 AM
Thursday, November 1st at 1:30 PM
Monday, December 3rd at 10:00 AM
Training sessions are held in the Baxter I Auditorium and last approximately 1.5 hours. Registration is not required, but participants must sign in.

DEHS Required Training

DEHS has monthly training on Lab Safety/Hazardous Waste (LS/HW) and Bloodborne Pathogens (BP). LS/HW is from 9:00-10:00AM and BP is from 10:00-11:00AM. Both sessions are held in the **Dental School-Room 105** on the following dates:

January 10, 2007
February 14, 2007
March 14, 2007
April 4, 2007
May 9, 2007
June 13, 2007

Bring your employee ID number to sign in. Contact erin.foley@louisville.edu to reserve your spot.

AALAS Abstract and Topic Submission for 2007 National Meeting Site Open

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of myself and AALAS president, Bruce Kennedy, we are excited to introduce the inclusion of a themed Oncology Forum within the context of the 2007 National Meeting in Charlotte, NC. To that end, the Program Committee would like to encourage those of you with backgrounds and expertise in research, clinical care, and husbandry of animal models of oncology to submit proposals for special topic lectures, round-tables, seminars, and abstracts for the 2007 National Meeting.

All other aspects of this year's National Meeting, to be held October 14–18, 2007, will be similar to previous meetings. We invite the participation of all of our membership to organize outstanding educational sessions and submit abstracts on all aspects of laboratory animal medicine and welfare.

You may view the requirements for submitting abstracts and proposing educational session topics on the National Meeting website at: nationalmeeting.aalas.org/callforabs.asp.

One additional new change implemented by the Program Committee is the instatement of a common deadline for both topic and abstract submissions—March 15, 2007. Abstract and topic submission for this year's National Meeting will again be handled through the ScholarOne abstract submission site, aalas.abstractcentral.com. This browser-based system offers many benefits, including fast, easy online submission and unlimited technical support. If you choose to submit a Topic, please note that you must include the title, brief description, and names and contact information for any suggested panelists, speakers, or leader. Once the submission undergoes review and acceptance, any substitution or addition of speakers must be approved by the Program Committee. If you choose to submit an Abstract, please follow the guidelines and provide complete information. This will greatly

assist the Program Committee in their review process and enable the correct assignment of your abstract to the appropriate program session. If you would like to serve as a session facilitator, to assist your colleagues with the logistics of their presentations, the deadline for volunteering for this position is August 1, 2007. The volunteer facilitator form is readily available at: <http://nationalmeeting.aalas.org/PDF/FacForm.pdf>.

As always, your suggestions for other components of the program are welcome. The Program Committee depends on ideas from the membership to ensure a program that is timely and appealing to a wide span of AALAS member interests. Please feel free to let us know what you have to contribute or what topic you wish to learn more about.

Although it seems far away as memories of the mountains in Salt Lake City begin to fade, the deadline of March 15, 2007 will roll around sooner than we think. Please begin your plans now to submit your work and register to attend what will be another memorable AALAS National Meeting program in 2007.
F. Claire Hankenson, DVM
2007 National Meeting Program Chair

IACUC Policy: Responding to Reported Deficiencies in Animal Care and Treatment

The humane care and use of animals is of paramount importance to the University of Louisville. Individuals who may have specific concerns about animal care and treatment are encouraged to report their observations of deficiencies to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). A subcommittee, described in paragraph three below, will immediately investigate any allegation of misconduct with respect to animal care and use. Individuals generating a deficiency report shall not be discriminated against or be subject to any reprisal for generating the report. Individuals who desire anonymity may be certain that the IACUC will handle a deficiency report in confidence to the extent permitted by law.

Reporting Procedures:

Concerns regarding misconduct associated with the care and treatment of animals may be reported to the IACUC chairperson, any committee member, or the staff veterinarians. Written reports should be addressed to the Chair or an individual in the following manner:

*Chairperson or Member (Name),
IACUC
IACUC Office
Research Resources Center, Room
102
Health Sciences Center
University of Louisville
Louisville, KY 40292*

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Reports of care and treatment deficiencies may also be given verbally to the IACUC Chair, any committee member, or the staff veterinarian. A current roster of IACUC members may be obtained from the Office of Research Services (ext. 7307). Reports should be as specific as possible, i.e., date, time, species involved, animal/project identification number and the names of the UofL personnel involved.

IACUC Response to Deficiency Reports:

The receipt of a written or verbal report of animal care and treatment deficiency by the IACUC will be immediately brought to the attention of the Associate Vice President for Research Services, the Director or staff veterinarian of the Research Resource Facilities, and the IACUC Chairperson. These individuals will constitute a subcommittee to investigate and, where concerns are substantiated, bring about the correction of the reported deficiency. At the next regularly scheduled IACUC meeting, the subcommittee will describe the reported deficiency and the corrective action that has been taken. If, and when, a letter reporting a deficiency is forwarded to an outside regulatory agency (i.e., OLAW, AAALAC), or in other instances where notification seems appropriate as determined by the committee, a letter will also be forwarded to the department chair affiliated with the project in question. IACUC and subcommittee members will remain honor-bound to respect report confidentiality.

January 2007 JAALAS

The following are the titles of the publications in the January issue of AALAS's Journal of the American Association of Laboratory Animal Science (JAALAS):

- [Are Investigators Aware of Environmental Noise in Animal Facilities and That This Noise May Affect Experimental Data?](#)
- [Can You Hear Me Now?](#)
- [Effect of Noise on Microvascular Integrity in Laboratory Rats](#)
- [Effects of Two Types and Two Genre of Music on Social Behavior in Captive Chimpanzees \(Pan troglodytes\)](#)
- [Extra-auditory Effects of Noise in Laboratory Animals: The Relationship Between Noise and Sleep](#)
- [Factors Affecting Hearing in Mice, Rats, and Other Laboratory Animals](#)
- [Hearing Ranges of Laboratory Animals](#)
- [Noise Monitoring and Establishment of a Comprehensive Hearing Conservation Program](#)
- [Noise Produced by Vacuuming Exceeds the Hearing Thresholds of C57Bl/6 and CD1 Mice](#)
- [The Fundamentals of Sound and its Measurement](#)
- [Types and Functions of Ultrasonic Vocalizations in Laboratory Rats and Mice](#)

If you would like to view copies of these articles, please contact the RRF office @ x5268 or one of the husbandry supervisors. Or visit the AALAS website at <http://www.aalas.org/publications>. (You must be an AALAS member.)