

IACUC QUARTERLY

News & Updates

December 2005

Tony Valero, D.V.M.
IACUC Coordinator
Bldg 120, Rm 312
X-64288, avalero@lumc.edu

Notes from the Chair

Dr. Jawed Fareed, PhD.

Since the publication of the last issue of the IACUC newsletter many important events have occurred at the Stritch School of Medicine. Dr. Jack Lee has been named as the new Dean, SSOM. With this new leadership there will be an important component developing newer research programs including research animals and significant improvements in the CMF. Dr. Lee has expressed a strong interest in improving animal research and care as the chair of the 2010 and RAC (Research Advisory Committee). His committee's recommendations addressed several important issues, which were extremely helpful in improving the CMF operation and IACUC's role in implementing certain guidelines. Dean Lee has a strong background in basic research where his group focused on such neurodegenerative diseases as Alzheimer's disease and stroke. We look forward to working with his office in implementing compliance issues related to the humane use of animals and developing advanced programs.

The 2005 meeting of the Animal Association of Laboratory Animals Species (AALAS) was held in St. Louis, MO during the period of November 6-10 . Loyola was well represented at this meeting with both CMF staff and IACUC members attending this meeting. Loyola faculty and staff also participated in the scientific program of this meeting and several posters were presented on work completed at Loyola. The scientific program's highlights were stem cell research in animal models and changing trends in animal care and compliance issues. The AALAS meeting also had one of the largest exhibits where various animal vendors, equipment manufacturers, veterinary pharmaceutical companies and regulator bodies were represented. The CMF staff was able to identify certain newer equipment and other items which will be very useful in improving our CMF facilities. The CMF staff was also able to review the cage washing technology and will procure a new cage washer soon. The program of this meeting is available in Dr. Valero's office. Link :

<http://nationalmeeting.aalas.org/>

Notes from the Chair

Continuation

Dr. Kennedy's office has initiated the implementation of the recommendations made by Dr. Moore of the University of Arkansas for improving animal care programs with the CMF. Dr. Cera and her team are closely working with his office and will provide the IACUC a briefing on various programs. We are thankful to Dr. Kennedy for his support and leadership.

Recently the importance of grant matching with the ACORP has been recognized. Several institutions have implemented specific procedures to match the grants (proposal) with the ACORPs submitted and approved in conjunction with the award. Dean Kennedy has conducted a meeting with the IACUC office with the CMF staff to discuss this matter. At the present time there is no formal method for grant matching. The IACUC chair along with several IACUC members and the staff of the research office (IT) is working on developing a program which can automatically track the use of animals utilized in conjunction with an award. The IACUC has also discussed certain options to deal with this issue. A detailed report on some of the options will be presented before the IACUC for a formal recommendation. Consistent with Dr. Kennedy's directive, it is our hope that we can develop a teaching program which can be implemented with the orders placed and any amendments submitted by the principal investigators. We hope to have this matter resolved by the end of the first quarter of 2006.

The IACUC chair together with the Director of CMF has also initiated an open forum with individual departments to provide an update on IACUC activities and to discuss any specific issues by the faculty. In 2006, two open forums are also planned to have an open discussion with our faculty. As this newsletter is the last issue for 2005, please accept holiday greetings and best wishes for the year 2006.

Hot Topics

- CO₂ Euthanasia Equipment – Please contact CMF for location of the equipment in the CMF area and names of vendor to order equipment for your area or laboratory.
- Grant Matching with ACORP – PI should include a copy of Section F: Vertebrate Animals of the Grant with each ACORP submission to the IACUC office via e-mail, fax or in the ACORP Portal submission.

Items to Match Grant with ACORP

- Section F: Vertebrate Animals
 1. Species, strains, ages, sex and numbers.
 2. Justification for use, choice of species and numbers.
 3. Veterinary care.
 4. Minimization of discomfort, distress, pain and injury.
 5. Method of euthanasia.

More Hot Topics

- Annual Review Form Revision – Need to include number of animals ordered and remaining animals approved in the ACORP.
- ACORP Revision Suggestion – If you have suggestions or issues with the current ACORP form, please forward them to us.

Common IACUC Semi-Annual Inspection Findings

- CO₂ gas generated from **DRY ICE** is no longer allowed. Please use CO₂ compressed gas or consult with CMF.
- Copies of approved ACORPs should be in the lab area and available to staff members and inspectors.
- Please inform the IACUC of any changes in lab location of animal experimentation by submitting an amendment to the ACORP.

Common IACUC Semi-Annual Inspection Findings

- Finding expired controlled drugs in laboratories and the need for double locked cabinet.
- Expired and Annual Review of ACORPs. PI needs to update ACORP's list of personnel and personnel training information. Amendments and Annual Reviews are submitted using the Portal.
- Some laboratories need re-certification of their fume hoods.

Next IACUC Semi-Annual Inspection Schedule

March 2006 – Exact date and location to be announced a month prior to the inspection date. Please review previous findings and make necessary corrections in your laboratories or area of responsibility.

Upcoming IACUC Departmental Meeting

- Pharmacology - January 2006

Upcoming meeting

- **PRIM&R/ARENA's 2006 Annual IACUC Conference, March 26-28, 2006, Boston Park Plaza Hotel & Towers, Boston, MA:**
http://www.primr.org/education/2006_IACUC/overview_IACUC06.html

CMF News

- Please help us congratulate the following CMF employees:
- Sandra Cundari, Laboratory Animal Care Technician II, was just elected to another term on the staff council.
- Elizabeth McGeehan, who recently completed her veterinary technology externship program with Loyola CMF, just passed her veterinary technology boards. She has applied for her State license. All of Beth's fellow 2005 graduates from Joliet Junior College passed the exam and scored much higher than the national average.
- Richard Duff, Veterinary Services Technician, has successfully fulfilled the educational requirements for participation in the National American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) Technician Certification Registry and is entitled to use an "R" in front of his certification acronym (RLATG).
- Congratulations to all!

Do You Have Questions or Concerns?

The Chair and staff of the IACUC will be happy to answer any questions from our faculty or research staff on animal research-related issues and clarify IACUC procedures. Please send us your questions and we will promptly respond.