"Janice Sojka, VMD, joins the PACUC"

We are pleased to announce that effective February 1, 2000, Janice Sojka, VMD, Associate Professor in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, has been appointed by President Beering as a voting member of the PACUC. Dr. Sojka specializes in large animal medicine with a focus on equine health. Her expertise in these and other areas will be a valuable addition to the Committee. Dr. Sojka replaces Dr. Harm HogenEsch from the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology. Dr. HogenEsch served Purdue University as a voting member of the PACUC since 1995. The PACUC expresses its gratitude to Dr. HogenEsch for his conscientiousness and for the informed counsel he provided to the Committee.

"Summer PACUC Meeting Dates"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>Deadline Date for Protocol Submission</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 21</td>
<td>May 31 at 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>June 28 at 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 16</td>
<td>July 26 at 5:00 p.m.</td>
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Every day I get up and look through the Forbes list of the richest people in America. If I'm not there, I go to work." - Robert Orben

CH-CH-CH-CH-Changes…..When Are They "Significant?"

To achieve regulatory compliance, the PACUC must "review and approve, require modifications in (to secure approval) or withhold approval of proposed significant changes regarding the use of animals in ongoing activities." Because both the USDA and the USPHS expect that this regulation will be strictly enforced, it is very important for investigators, animal care staff, and the PACUC to be able to determine what type of changes in approved activities are considered to be "significant." Unfortunately, federal regulatory agencies provide neither a formal definition nor an exhaustive list of changes in animal care and use activities that are considered significant. However, they have provided a general list of such changes. The PACUC recommends that researchers and animal care specialists use this list of significant changes as a guide when considering whether any change in an animal care or use activity that is planned requires review and approval by the PACUC before it is implemented. Significant changes include:

1. Changes in the overall objectives of the approved studies.
2. Changes from non-survival to survival surgery or vice-versa.
3. Changes that increase the pain or discomfort experienced by animals (e.g., increased restraint, restrictions on food or water intake, exposure or increased exposure to noxious or hazardous stimuli or materials).
4. Changes in the anesthetic agent(s) or dose(s) or the method(s) of administering of anesthetic agents.
5. Changes in the use of analgesics.
6. Changes in the use of sedatives or tranquilizing drugs.
8. Changes in the species used.
9. Increases in the number of procedures performed on an animal.
10. Modifications to a surgical procedure.
11. Changes in the duration of a procedure that is performed on an animal (e.g., chronic rather than acute procedures or vice-versa, length of a behavioral test session).
12. Changes in the housing (e.g., type of caging, location) or husbandry of animals.
13. Changes in the research personnel involved with the project (surgeon, person performing specialized tasks).
14. Changes in the frequency of procedures (e.g., blood sampling, drug administration, tissue biopsy, exposure to stimuli, number of repeated behavioral tests).
15. Changes in the invasiveness of a procedure (e.g., utilized a catheter rather than a needle to obtain fluid samples, injected rather than administered an oral form of a
In addition, each protocol approves the use of a specific number of animals per year. Federal regulations also prohibit the use of animals in excess of this number without prior review and approval by the PACUC. Request for amendments to approved protocols and requests for animal supplements should be submitted to the Secretary of the PACUC six to eight weeks prior to the time when change in activity or the additional animals will be needed.

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NIH Elevates Division of Animal Welfare to Office Status

Effective March 2, 2000, the National Institutes of Health established the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW). This move elevates what was formerly a division (i.e., the Division of Animal Welfare) of the Office for Protection from Research Risks (OPRR) to office status. The Director of OLAW, Dr. Nelson Garnett, will now report to the NIH Deputy Director for Extramural Research, Dr. Wendy Baldwin, rather than to the head of OPRR. OLAW will be responsible for all of the animal-related functions of the former Division of Animal Welfare. These include implementing and interpreting the Public Health Service (PHS) Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, administering an educational program for PHS-supported institutions and investigators, negotiating Animal Welfare Assurances, and evaluating compliance with the PHS Policy. This change in status demonstrates the increased emphasis that is being placed on the oversight of animal care and use activities by federal research funding agencies. Additional information about OLAW’s organization and operations can be obtained at the following web site: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm

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- "The difference between 'involvement' and 'commitment' is like an eggs-and-ham breakfast: the chicken was 'involved' - the pig was 'committed'." - unknown

Need Training or Assistance?

Check with the LAP!

Over the past year, the addition of professional staff has greatly increased the ability of the LAP to provide individual training in animal care and use activities to PIs and students. During the past several months, LAP staff members have trained personnel in several laboratories in the use of injection, blood collection, and surgical techniques for a variety of species. In some cases, the LAP staff has also assisted PIs during the performance of their
teaching or research activities. If you would like to learn more about the types of training and assistance that can be provided by the LAP please call 49163 and ask for Dr. Bill Ferner.

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New Instructional Media is Available

The Laboratory Animal Program recently purchased the University of California at Davis (UCD) auto-tutorial series "Practical Methodology" and the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM) auto-tutorial series. These new audiovisual materials are now available, along with other audiovisual materials, at the Instructional Media Center (IMC) of the John W. Hicks Undergraduate Library. These packages are not yet catalogued but are available for use by asking for them at the information desk. These instructional packages will also be included in a special animal experimentation media catalogue that will be developed by the IMC. The UCD and ACLAM series packages include information (e.g., handling, husbandry, blood collection, injections, etc.) on most laboratory animals used in research, teaching, and testing. A complete list of the material that is available is attached to this newsletter.

In Other News

"You Ought to Be a Dog"

According to a February report by the U.S. House of Representatives Government Reform Committee, prescription drugs suitable for both humans and animals usually carry different price tags, even though they may be exactly the same product. For example, Medrol, an arthritis remedy for humans and an anti-inflammatory for dogs, is about one-fifth the price when marketed to canines. Critics say the pharmaceutical houses charge more for human drugs because most of their sales are at least partially reimbursed by insurance.

"Wanted: Cowboys that are Rugged and Sensitive"

"Holistic herding," also known as low-stress livestock handling, is "changing the whole face of the West," according to a U.S. conservation official who was quoted in Canada's National Post in December. Cattle are happier, healthier and more obedient he said, if they are not shouted at or subjected to stress, and are instead allowed "to make up their own minds (where to go)," as one rancher put it. Not surprisingly, particularly rugged cowboys are said to avoid ranches that have adopted the change.

"A True 'Artiste'"
A September Deutsch Presse-Agentur report profiled Mr. Rainer Thoenes, 33, from the German village of Kalkar, who earns a nice living as a hairdresser for cows being readied for cattle shows. "The trick," said Thoenes, "is to highlight the cow's strong points [straight back, slim legs, plump udders] and hide the weak ones."