

Animal Care and Use Committee

Committee Members: S. Banack, M. S. Burt, J. W. Dragoo, T. Findley, W. L. Gannon (Chair), E. J. Gentz, V. L. Jackson, M. R. Johnson, A. D. Krevitz, S. A. MacDonald, B. McLellan, D. K. Odell, A. Pintar, R. S. Sikes

Mission:

The ACUC acts as a resource for issues concerning the use of animals in research. The committee maintains information on the ASM website regarding animal use and compliance and publishes revised guidelines regularly.

Information Items:

(1) Goals and Accomplishments for 2004-2005:

(A) The primary goal was to provide the Board with a draft of revised animal care and use guidelines. The new chair canvassed the committee for input and asked that they provide portions of what had been previously written towards revising guidelines. Several members responded positively with elements of previous efforts. A brief guideline emerged that was the product of numerous committee meetings on the topic since 2001. The chair convened a subcommittee that decided to begin anew and in a different conceptual direction.

That new direction was a reference document that presents information on animal care and use considerations for researchers primarily using wild mammals under field or temporary laboratory conditions. The new format was 1st proposed to include 3 parts. Part I was current information for Principal Investigators to use in preparing, submitting, and responding to IACUC requirements such as protocol preparation and submission. Part II listed acceptable, IACUC approved protocols resulting from surveys of 20 nationally recognized IACUC programs. Part III was a collection of standard operating procedures constructed for marsupials, Insectivores, Chiroptera, Rodentia, rabbits, meso mammals, mega mammals, and marine mammals. It was the intention that this document be dynamic and that it be updated periodically on the ASM website.

Although all this information will be supplied in the subsequent year, it was decided that to do all of this in 2004-2005 was too ambitious. It was decided that an updated version of Guidelines be produced to be published in the *Journal* every 2 years. A draft document was produced by subcommittee and distributed to the full committee for comment prior to being provided to the Board at the 2005 Annual Meeting. That document is titled, "Guidelines for the Use of Wild Mammals in Research - American Society of Mammalogists." The web will maintain the other portions of the entire document as described above.

Action Items: None

Respectfully submitted,
William L. Gannon
(wgannon@unm.edu)