

Where science and responsible animal care connect. Spring/Summer 2007


More than thirty percent of new applications for accreditation now coming from Pacific Rim countries



Pacific
Rim
Issue!

AAALAC International reports that in the first quarter of 2007, 33 percent of all new applications for accreditation were submitted from institutions located in Pacific Rim countries. This marks a continued trend—last year, 23 percent of all new applications for AAALAC International accreditation were from Pacific Rim institutions.

“We’ve seen interest in AAALAC International accreditation rapidly increase among institutions throughout the Pacific Rim,” says Dr. Kathryn A. Bayne, Senior Director and Director of Pacific Rim Activities for AAALAC International. “Word is spreading within these research communities on the benefits of earning accreditation—including the ways accreditation helps to improve animal care and research, and the ways it can be used to assure investors, partners and the public of the high quality of the research program.”



Currently 24 institutions throughout the Pacific Rim are accredited by AAALAC international (see complete list inside). The countries where these institutions are located include China, Korea, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan (ROC), and Thailand.

“AAALAC accreditation not only provided international measures to evaluate our animal care and use program, it also provided a channel of information and opportunity which made us improve in our field in an internationally

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aaalac
update

acceptable manner," says Takashi Hayashi, President & Chief Operating Officer for INA Research Philippines, Inc.

AAALAC expects the number of Pacific Rim research institutions seeking accreditation to continue to grow. "As awareness of the accreditation program spreads, and as the number of international research collaborations increases, AAALAC accreditation will become an important tool that institutions will use for continuous quality improvement and marketing their programs internationally," says Dr. John G. Miller, Executive Director for AAALAC International. •

For complete information on applying for AAALAC International accreditation, visit www.aaalac.org.

Institutions currently accredited by AAALAC International include:

Development Center for Biotechnology
Xizhi City, Taipei County
TAIWAN/R.O.C.

Fuji Biomedix Co., Ltd.
Kobuchisawa Research Laboratories
Hokuto-shi, Yamanashi, JAPAN

INA Research Inc.
INA Research Inc., Testing Facility
Nagano, JAPAN

INA Research Philippines
INARP-LTI
Biñan, Laguna, PHILIPPINES

INA Research Philippines
Primate Quality Control Center
Biñan, Laguna, PHILIPPINES

Institute of Laboratory Animal Science
Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences & Peking Union Medical College, Beijing, P.R. China

Korea Food and Drug Administration
Seoul, KOREA

Korea Institute of Toxicology
Daejeon, KOREA

Maccine Pte Ltd
Singapore, SINGAPORE

Maccine Pte Ltd
PT Mac Fauna
Kepulauan Riau, INDONESIA

Merck & Co., Inc.
Banyu Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.
Tsukuba, Ibaraki, JAPAN

Model Animal Research Center of Nanjing University
Nanjing, Jiangsu, P.R. CHINA

Naval Medical Research Center
U.S. Naval Medical Research Unit No. 2 (NAMRU-2)
Jakarta, INDONESIA

Next Century Incorporated
Nanjing, Jiangsu, P.R. CHINA

Primate Research Center at Bogor Agricultural University
Research Animal Facility - Lodaya
Bogor, West Java, INDONESIA

Samsung Medical Center
Samsung Biomedical Research Institute
Seoul, KOREA

Shenyang Research Institute of Chemical Industry
Safety Evaluation Center
Shenyang, Liaoning Province, P.R. CHINA

SICONBREC, Inc.
Makati City, PHILIPPINES

Singapore Health Services
Singapore General Hospital,
Department of Experimental Surgery
Singapore, SINGAPORE

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Sungkyunkwan University
 Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine
 Suwon-si, KOREA

The University of Hong Kong
 Laboratory Animal Unit
 Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine
 Hong Kong, P.R. CHINA

Walter Reed Army Institute of Research
 U.S. Army Medical Component-Armed Forces
 Research Institute of Medical Sciences
 Bangkok, THAILAND

**Wincon TheraCells
 Biotechnologies Co., Ltd.**
 Wincon TheraCells Biotechnologies Co., Ltd.
 Nanning, Guangxi, P.R. CHINA

Yonsei University
 College of Medicine, Seoul, KOREA

*For a complete list of institutions
 accredited by AAALAC International,
 visit www.aaalac.org.*

Information on accreditation now available in Chinese, Korean and Japanese languages

AAALAC International recently re-launched its web site, www.aaalac.org, with information in six additional languages including Chinese, Korean and Japanese.

Each language includes information on AAALAC International, how to apply for accreditation, the benefits of earning accreditation, and information on AAALAC's Program Status Evaluation program (which is often used as a precursor to applying for AAALAC accreditation).

Visit www.aaalac.org and click on the language links at the top of the page...

The screenshot shows the AAALAC International website interface. At the top, there are language selection buttons: ENGLISH, CHINESE, FRENCH, GERMAN, JAPANESE, KOREAN, and SPANISH. Below these is the AAALAC International logo and the text "Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International". A navigation menu on the left lists: ABOUT AAALAC, ACCREDITATION, PROGRAM STATUS EVALUATION, EDUCATION, RESOURCES, NEWS, and PUBLICATIONS. The main content area features a photo of a guinea pig and the text "accreditation for agricultural and biomedical animal research programs." At the bottom, there are quick links: Accredited Organizations, Members Only, Reference Resources, Program Description, and Global Gateway. A dark purple banner at the very bottom contains the text "Accreditation information now available in seven languages at: www.aaalac.org".

Pacific Rim ad hoc Consultants add expertise to AAALAC International's site visit teams

The AAALAC International accreditation process involves a comprehensive review of an animal care and use program by a team of expert colleagues. Site visits are led by a member of AAALAC International's Council on Accreditation. These Council members are assisted by ad hoc Consultants to AAALAC who accompany Council members on site visits and make recommendations to the Council on Accreditation.

Many of these Consultants have expertise in traditional laboratory animal medicine and science. Others have unique discipline competencies, such as applied neuroscience, behavioral science, toxicology, pharmacology or physiology. These Specialists add depth to the site visit team, and understand the intricacies of balancing the research mission with animal well-being. Fifteen of AAALAC's ad hoc Consultants are from Pacific Rim countries. They include:

Jung Sik Cho, Ph.D.

Director, Division of Laboratory Animal Resources
National Institute of Toxicological Research
Korea Food and Drug Administration, KOREA

Jin Soo Han, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Department of Laboratory
Animal Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine
Konkuk University, KOREA

Sang-Seop Han, Ph.D.

President, Korea Institute of Toxicology, KOREA

Chou C. Hong, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Senior Vice President, Preclinical Testing Center
Level Biotechnology Inc.
His-Chih, Taipei Hsien, TAIWAN/R.O.C.

Anthony E. James, B.V.Sc.

Director, Laboratory Animal Services Centre
Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin N.T.
Hong Kong, P.R. CHINA

Naoko Kagiya, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Research Fellow, RIKEN Center for Developmental
Biology, Advisor, Central Institute for Experimental
Animals, JAPAN

Tsutomu Miki Kurosawa, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Associate Professor, The Institute of Experimental
Animal Sciences, IEXAS Medical School, Osaka
University, JAPAN

Yong-Soon Lee, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Professor, College of Veterinary Medicine,
Seoul National University, Seoul, KOREA

Shengming Lu

Director, Beijing Laboratory Animal Research
Center, Chinese Agricultural University
Beijing, P.R. CHINA

Bryan E. Ogden, D.V.M.

Head, Maccine Veterinary Services
Maccine Pte. Ltd., SINGAPORE

Yasmina A. Paramastri, D.V.M.

Head, Division of Research Animal Resources
Primate Research Center at Bogor Agricultural
University, Bogor, West Java, INDONESIA

Makoto Suzuki, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Associate Director, Comparative Medicine
Pfizer Global Research & Development, Nagoya
Laboratories, Chita, Aichi, JAPAN

Jonathan Ward, MIAT RAnTech

Chief Operating Officer
PWG Genetics Singapore Pte. Ltd., SINGAPORE

Imelda L. Winoto, D.V.M.

Head Department, Laboratory Animal Medicine,
U.S. Naval Medical Research Unit No. 2,
Jakarta, INDONESIA

Y. Alex Zhang, Ph.D.

President, Wincon TheraCells Biotechnologies
Co., Ltd., Nanning, Guangxi, P.R. CHINA

AFLAS panel discusses the role of AAALAC International accreditation

As part of the Asian Federation of Laboratory Animal Science Associations' (AFLAS) second Congress, held last August on Jeju Island, South Korea, AAALAC International coordinated a special symposium, "International Harmonization and Standardization of Laboratory Animal Science in Asia (AAALAC International)." The symposium was chaired by Dr. Kathryn Bayne, AAALAC International's Senior Director and Director of Pacific Rim Activities, and included talks by several ad hoc Consultants to AAALAC and participants in the AAALAC accreditation program.

The symposium opened with an introduction and overview by Dr. Bayne on the AAALAC International accreditation program in Asia. Dr. Kap Jai Lee, Professor and Director of the Center for Biomedical Research at the University of North Dakota (USA), then gave a presentation titled, "AAALAC International Did and Can for the Asian Nations." Dr. Lee discussed some of the key benefits accreditation offers Asian programs, including "assuring the world of quality animal care" and "recognition by the world scientific community."

Dr. Lee then shared the Korean Food and Drug Administration's (KFDA) experience earning AAALAC International accreditation. Dr. Jung Sik Cho, Director of the Department of Laboratory Animal Resources for KFDA, who successfully led her institution through the accreditation process, noted several significant benefits. Dr. Cho said that as a result of earning accreditation, they were more easily able to publish their manuscripts in reputable journals, and received more invitations

to speak. She also believes that KFDA is now more widely known in the world scientific community, especially since it was the first government agency in Asia to receive AAALAC accreditation.

The next talk was presented by Dr. Je Kyung Seong, Associate Professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Seoul National University in Korea, on the "Challenge and Promotion of Laboratory Animal Medicine by Accreditation System." Dr. Seong first discussed the need for scientists to use animals in research, particularly in the area of gene research. He noted that compared to Western countries, Asia has a relatively short history of conducting biomedical research. Along with differing national laws regulating animal research, Asia's cultural differences, such as the use of ceremonies to pay respect for the animals used in research, also set the region apart from the West.

"Especially for Asian countries, establishing standardized and harmonized regulations for laboratory animal sciences is a difficult task

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because every country has different historical and cultural backgrounds in the laboratory animal sciences," Dr. Seong said.

Dr. Seong stated that it's exactly because of these differences that an international accreditation system can help Asian institutions ensure that they are meeting global standards.

"Organizations such as AAALAC International can help Asian countries—through an accreditation system—establish general guidelines for laboratory animal sciences and minimize the differences between domestic and international requirements for animal experimentation," Dr. Seong said.

The final presentation was given by Dr. Bryan Ogden, Head of Veterinary Services for Maccine Pte. Ltd., in Singapore, on "The AAALAC International Accreditation Program in Asia—Accrediting Institutions in Singapore." Dr. Ogden highlighted Singapore's commitment to becoming a major hub for biomedical research. He explained that the government has made significant investments during the past four years in infrastructure, animal welfare guidelines, and regulatory oversight to promote world-class research. The National Advisory Committee for Laboratory Animal Research (NACLAR) established guidelines in 2004, which are similar to ILAR's *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (the main reference used

by AAALAC to evaluate animal care and use programs).

Dr. Ogden noted that there are currently 22 licensed animal research institutions in Singapore, and AAALAC International accreditation has been advocated as a means to demonstrate excellence in animal care and use programs. The Singapore Association for Laboratory Animal Science (SALAS), established in 2004, has been active in promoting AAALAC accreditation during its meetings and in several IACUC training courses. In early 2004 two organizations in Singapore implemented plans to achieve AAALAC accreditation. They were site visited in March 2006 and Full Accreditation was granted to both a few months later. Both of these AAALAC accredited institutions in Singapore have received encouraging feedback from local and overseas sources. Shortly thereafter, a third institution in Singapore achieved accreditation. Dr. Ogden added that several additional Singapore institutions are in the process of pursuing accreditation.

He concluded by noting that "Accreditation of Singapore animal research institutions by AAALAC International contributes to a more positive international image of Singapore biomedical research." •

Questions and comments on the AFLAS symposium can be sent to kbayne@aaalac.org.



Two Pacific Rim professionals are elected to AAALAC International's Council on Accreditation

AAALAC International has elected two new members from the Pacific Rim region, Montip Gettayacamin, D.V.M., and Je Kyung Seong, M.S., Ph.D., D.V.M., to its Council on Accreditation. The Council is comprised of some of the most prominent animal care and use professionals and researchers from around the globe. Council members conduct the site visits and program evaluations that determine which institutions are awarded AAALAC accreditation.

"We are extremely pleased to have Drs. Gettayacamin and Seong serve on the Council on Accreditation," says Dr. Kathryn A. Bayne, Senior Director and Director of Pacific Rim Activities for AAALAC International. "The expertise they bring to the Council will be a tremendous asset to AAALAC and of great benefit to the institutions they visit on AAALAC's behalf."

Dr. Gettayacamin is Assistant Chief for Research and Laboratory Animal Medicine, U.S. Army Medical Component, for the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences in Bangkok, Thailand. Dr. Gettayacamin received her veterinary degree from Chulalongkorn University in Thailand and is board certified in laboratory animal medicine.

Dr. Seong is an Associate Professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Seoul National University. He received his veterinary degree and doctorate in veterinary histology from Seoul National University.

Before their election to Council, Drs. Gettayacamin and Seong both served as ad hoc Consultants to AAALAC. They will begin their terms on the Council on July 1. •



Dr. Montip Gettayacamin



Dr. Je Kyung Seong

AAALAC supports Pacific Rim scientific meetings in 2007

AAALAC International is pleased to be an ongoing participant and supporter of scientific meetings throughout Pacific Rim countries. The Pacific Rim meetings in which AAALAC International is scheduled to participate (thus far) in 2007 are ...

- IACUC Basic and Advanced Training, AVA/SALAS, Singapore
- Japanese Association for Laboratory Animal Science (JALAS), Tokyo, Japan
- 6th World Congress on Alternatives & Animal Use in the Life Sciences, Tokyo, Japan

"Accreditation of Singapore animal research institutions by AAALAC International contributes to a more positive international image of Singapore biomedical research."

Dr. Bryan Ogden, Head of Veterinary Services for Maccine Pte. Ltd., in Singapore



Peer review.

It's a powerful tool for enhancing your animal care and use program. And it's at the heart of the AAALAC International accreditation process.

Scientists worldwide recognize peer review as a critical component of research—they know that the process of rigorous evaluation and critique results in a quality product.

When you seek AAALAC International accreditation, your program receives a confidential, expert peer-review evaluation designed to help your organization promote animal welfare, ensure scientific validity, and provide quality assurance.

Join the 700+ organizations in 29 countries that have earned AAALAC International accreditation, and demonstrate your commitment to meeting high international standards for animal care and research.

Learn more at www.aaalac.org

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ASSOCIATION FOR ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION OF LABORATORY ANIMAL CARE INTERNATIONAL

Established in 1965, AAALAC International is a private, non-governmental organization that validates the quality of animal care and use programs and verifies that they meet or exceed national and international standards. AAALAC International's voluntary, confidential, peer-review accreditation process serves as a valuable adjunct to other quality initiatives and legislation, and is the only international accreditation for animal care and use programs.

Institutions seeking AAALAC International accreditation receive a comprehensive review by an international team of expert evaluators who are knowledgeable in the fields of laboratory animal science and medicine, as well as national and local legislation. Institutions that meet or exceed applicable standards are awarded accreditation—a symbol of quality



assurance recognized around the world. More than 700 institutions in 29 countries, including eight Pacific Rim countries/territories, have earned AAALAC accreditation. More information is available on AAALAC International's Web site at www.aaalac.org.

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