Patrick Hardy on FELASA’s Role in Laboratory Animal Science

Patrick Hardy, D.V.M. is the immediate past president of FELASA (Federation of European Laboratory Animal Science Associations). He is also the Scientific Director of IFFA-Credo, the main subsidiary of Charles River in Europe.

Dr. Hardy has been involved with FELASA for over a decade as the representative of SFEA, the French laboratory animal science association. He has served as a member of the FELASA Board of Management since 1989, as Secretary of the Board in 1995 and as President from 1996-1998.

FELASA was founded in 1978 as an international body to represent the common interests of constituent associations in the furtherance of all aspects of laboratory animal science. (For more details on FELASA, please see page 4 of this issue.) In 1998, FELASA became an AAALAC Member Organization, with representation on its Board of Trustees. To further the understanding of FELASA and how its involvement on our Board of Trustees might affect both organizations, Dr. John Miller, Executive Director of AAALAC recently conducted this interview with Dr. Patrick Hardy.

Looking back on your term as President, what do you view as the most significant accomplishments of FELASA during that time?

My goal was always to maintain, and whenever possible develop further, what was achieved by Philip O’Donoghue and to ensure that the credibility and image of FELASA is preserved and enhanced.

As you know, prior to 1990, FELASA’s main activities were the exchange of technical and scientific information between its members and organization of a triennial symposium. Beginning in 1990, when Philip O’Donoghue was elected president of FELASA during the Lyon symposium, the organization became much more politically involved and active internationally. Both Philip and I increased communication with other organizations in Europe that were interested in the use of animals in science. By working with the European Biomedical Research Association (EBRA), the Council of Europe (CoE), the International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS), the European Union (EU) and affiliated institutions like the European Centre for the Validation of Alternative Methods (ECVAM), we increased the visibility of FELASA throughout Europe and beyond. The increased support of publications, availability of statements, and addressing important issues directly -- which before were
AAALAC accreditation would be an additional administrative requirement -- although AAALAC accreditation is strictly voluntary. These are very sensitive subjects and misunderstandings which AAALAC will need to deal with in the future.

The concerns were finally resolved and it was decided that AAALAC affiliation would be best for FELASA. AAALAC was already an international organization, with an office in Brussels and excellent visibility within the animal science community. It also had the support and involvement of respected colleagues in Europe like Anne-Dominique Degryse and Marie-Claude Guesnu.

In the past, there were actually discussions within FELASA about the relevance of initiating our own accreditation program. But ultimately, it was determined that this was not the mission of FELASA. We were not designed to become an accreditation body and we were not willing to develop the specific financial or human resources to carry out this endeavor. Probably the best manner in which FELASA could achieve its mission was to ensure that the way AAALAC operated in Europe was compatible with the European situation. By working with AAALAC and being involved in their European development, the questions and concerns expressed by our member associations and Board of Management will be addressed.

**You mentioned earlier FELASA’s involvement with the Council of Europe. Tell our non-European readers a little about the Council and FELASA’s activities with that body.**

The Council of Europe (CoE) is an intergovernmental organization whose members cooperate voluntarily and without direct legislative authority or the power to impose penalties in cases of non-compliance (which is not the case with the European Union and its Directives). The CoE Conventions are like treaties, which, once signed and ratified, bind member states.

Their implementation is a matter of honor. Due to the variety of social, cultural and economic situations among the 40 member states, the interpretations and implementation of Conventions can be quite different from state to state.

However, the Convention relating to the protection of animals used for scientific purposes (ETS 123) was used almost unchanged to issue the European Union’s Directive 86/609/ECC, which had to be implemented by all countries of the European Union within two years.

FELASA gained a lot respect as a professional association representing animal science and medicine in Europe when it was granted official “observer status” with the CoE in 1996. It is our hope that we can continue to provide the Council with reliable advice and materials within the scope of neutral consultations.

I know that FELASA has been very involved with the revision to Appendix A of the Convention. How is this progressing?

As you know, Appendix A to the ETS 123, its “Guidelines for Accommodation and Care of Animals,” was published in 1986. In 1997, parties to the Convention agreed to revise these guidelines in four species-specific areas: nonhuman primates; dogs and cats; rabbits and rodents; and mini-pigs. Working groups of experts in each of these areas were appointed, with Phillipe Baneux serving as the FELASA coordinator for this project and coordinator of the activities of the four working groups. He is working closely with Felix Homberger (the FELASA Vice-President in charge of the Working Groups), the FELASA President Jann Hau, and other representatives who are chairing or serving within the groups. FELASA also has appointed experts who are to be consulted by the members of these groups in order to ensure the widest possible representation. FELASA is...
FELASA

composed of 12 associations representing more than 20 countries, and has to consider the feelings and situations of each professional category within our organization.

This characteristic of FELASA, that it is open to all -- scientists, veterinarians, laboratory technicians and animal caretakers, in all types of working environments -- universities, governmental, and industrial institutions -- makes it necessary to balance the representation and be sensitive to all points of view.

The ongoing process of revision is going well. The issues of the Working Groups were presented to Member States representatives at a meeting organized by the CoE in January 1999. The revised document should be available within a year. There remains a lot of additional information to be gathered. The goal is to deal less with specific methods and more with underlying principles, with the resulting guidelines being more performance or outcome-based.

What then do you see as the role for AAALAC and its programs in this European system?

The main goal of both the EU Directive and CoE’s Convention is animal protection -- the protection and welfare of animals used for scientific purposes. Certainly, one dimension of what AAALAC accreditation provides is to ensure that standards of care are as high as possible and that there is minimal pain and suffering to animals. However, animal protection, care and welfare are only one aspect of the use of animals in scientific research.

Another aspect of the use of animals for scientific purposes has to do with the validity of the scientific results. This is certainly one of the goals shared with the Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) regulations -- to increase the quality of research and reliability of experimental data. This second science-focused dimension of using animals for research purposes is an area where AAALAC can make a valuable contribution, adding a second dimension to the regulations in synergy with them.

Furthermore, some commercial companies may be interested in using AAALAC accreditation as a way to demonstrate that their technical quality standards in the field are fully compatible with those used in the U.S. or in other countries. This may be the case within multinational pharmaceutical corporations or European companies seeking to develop their commercial activities in the U.S.

How do you envision FELASA interacting with the newly formed European Society of Laboratory Animal Veterinarians (ESLAV)?

FELASA wants to represent the entire laboratory animal community. At the same time, we are aware that by being a generalist organization we are not in the position to do everything. The development of an association for laboratory animal veterinarians is very complementary to our activities. Furthermore, in most countries in Europe, laboratory animal science is significantly under-represented within the veterinary community. To establish better communication in this field will be a benefit to everyone working to improve the care and use of laboratory animals. Working with ESLAV will improve the contacts and scientific exchanges between the veterinary and laboratory animal science communities, as well as contribute to better communication with the public through veterinary channels.

In addition, FELASA has always been interested in creating a peer evaluation and recognition organization in Europe similar to the United States’ American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine. One of the goals of ESLAV is to create ECLAM (European College of Laboratory Animal Medicine). This effort is very compatible with our goals. We have invited ESLAV representatives to attend our Board meetings and we hope to develop a complementary relationship with them -- to avoid any unnecessary overlap of efforts. The connection with ESLAV is evident in the fact that many members work within both organizations.

How do you see AAALAC and FELASA complementing our respective organizations in the future?

AAALAC accreditation is a very good way to reach the goals of FELASA in the continuous improvement of environmental conditions and professional practices in the fields of animal care, welfare and use. The difficulty in doing so will be to make sure FELASA keeps its own position and remains specific with its goals. To have a specific position among organizations, where we hold the broad middle ground, takes an understanding of both sides. We have to be sure we keep this specificity of FELASA “to be in the middle” between animal protection groups and the industry and biomedical research associations.

For AAALAC, your key issue will be communication. Success will depend on AAALAC’s ability to do so effectively on several levels – to different laboratory animal science constituencies, in different countries and with varying national programs in place.

Acceptance of AAALAC is increasing. Your plans to increase the participation by European professionals as consultants and representatives for communicating AAALAC issues will be a major benefit as these individuals understand the cultural issues and sensitivities of the European community in which they work and live.
ICLAS
The International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS) was formed in Paris in 1956 under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO) and a number of international nongovernmental organizations, such as the International Committee on Laboratory Animals. In 1979, the name changed to the International Council for Laboratory Animal Science.

One of the main objectives of ICLAS is to promote and coordinate the development of laboratory animal science throughout the world. In addition, ICLAS seeks to develop international collaborations within the laboratory animal science community; promote standardization; collect and disseminate information on laboratory animal science; and promote the humane use of animals in research through recognition of ethical principles and scientific responsibilities.

FELASA
The Federation of Laboratory Animal Science Associations (FELASA), established in 1978, represents common interests of constituent associations in Europe. Its mission is to exchange information among European states through establishing and maintaining links with national and international bodies (European Union, Council of Europe, scientific organizations such as ICLAS and AALAS). The organization coordinates the development of education, animal quality monitoring and any aspect of laboratory science.

FELASA promotes its recognition and consultation as the specialist Federation in laboratory animal science and welfare within Europe through publications and triennial joint scientific meetings.

The organization is composed of independent European national and regional laboratory animal science associations and is managed by a Board consisting of representatives of these constituent associations.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PRIMATOLOGISTS
The American Society of Primatologists (ASP) is an educational and scientific organization, whose purpose is to promote and encourage the discovery and exchange of information regarding primates, including all aspects of their anatomy, behavior, development, ecology, evolution, genetics, nutrition, physiology, reproduction, systematics, conservation, husbandry, and use in biomedical research.

COLLEGE ON PROBLEMS OF DRUG DEPENDENCE
The College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD), formerly the Committee on Problems of Drug Dependence, has been in existence since 1929 and is the longest standing group in the United States addressing problems of drug dependence and abuse. From 1929 until 1976, the CPDD was associated with the National Academy of Sciences, National Research Council. Since 1976, the organization has functioned as an independent body affiliated with other scientific and professional societies representing various disciplines concerned with problems of drug dependence and abuse. In 1991, the CPDD evolved into a membership organization with the new name of College on Problems of Drug Dependence.

CPDD serves as an interface among governmental, industrial and academic communities maintaining liaisons with regulatory and research agencies as well as educational, treatment, and prevention facilities in the drug abuse field. It also functions as a collaborating center of the World Health Organization.

SCAW
The Scientists Center for Animal Welfare (SCAW) is a non-profit educational association of individuals and institutions whose mission is to promote humane care, use, and management of animals involved in research, testing or education in laboratory, agricultural, wildlife or other settings.

Through the development, acceptance and implementation of high standards, SCAW promotes animal welfare with the conviction that quality animal care and use both improves the quality of scientific results and engenders public support for scientific research.

The Center provides an ongoing forum for the exchange and evaluation of scientific information about the care, treatment, well-being and ethical use of animals.

SCAW serves as an objective, credible source of information for the research community regarding the appropriate use of animals in research. The Center also provides information for the general public and media.
In 1998, AAALAC International accredited the first units in the countries of Denmark and Korea.

Ellegaard Göttingen Minipigs of Damose, Denmark and the Toxicology Research Center, Korea Research Institute of Chemical Technology of Taejon, Korea were added to the growing list of accredited international institutions. The global interest in accreditation has been spurred by growing familiarity with AAALAC programs and efforts to increase international representation on AAALAC’s Council on Accreditation and as ad hoc consultants. In addition, positive testimonials by associates at accredited units have helped AAALAC in its recent growth.

Lars Ellegaard, Managing Director of Ellegaard Göttingen Minipigs, featured the company’s newly acquired AAALAC accreditation on the front page of the company newsletter, proudly inviting clients to “come and see for yourself, our standard of quality.” Ellegaard added that “it has always been our policy to produce the best animal within the species, though no one really knew that -- our AAALAC accreditation tells people that we have high quality animals and management practices.”

The two members of AAALAC’s Council on Accreditation who conducted the Ellegaard site visit, Dr. Bradford Goodwin of Houston, TX and Dr. Anne Degryse, of Castres Cedex, France were immediately impressed with the Ellegaard program. “The management of the facility was very conscientious and procedures and standards of care were very high. The unit also had state-of-the-art equipment, including the HVAC and transport vehicles,” said Degryse.

Dr. Goodwin indicated that a primary concern when performing an international site visit is maintaining a uniform AAALAC standard. Occupational Health and Safety provides a challenge internationally because AAALAC standards are based principally on the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide) and “similar resources used in other countries deal solely with animal welfare issues and do not factor in the human risk element in animal care and use programs. This requires other regional resources and standards to be brought into the evaluation process to ensure the presence of consistent conditions,” said Goodwin. In this case, Dr. Degryse identified a European Union Directive that dealt with OHS in a manner consistent with AAALAC standards, which was then applied to the Ellegaard program.

During the site visit, Goodwin and Degryse established a rapport with Ellegaard management and were able to illustrate how the European Union Directives present similar performance standards and that the Guide is only one tool used in the accreditation process. According to Degryse, “it’s not AAALAC’s intent to impose U.S. standards on other countries. However there are striking similarities between the Guide and European Directives. So we can use European rules as well as the Guide to validate adherence to AAALAC standards.”

Lars Ellegaard learned of the benefits of AAALAC accreditation through supporters of AAALAC in Europe who had encouraged him to look into accreditation. Subsequent meetings with AAALAC’s Executive Director Dr. John Miller at the 1997 Scand-LAS conference provided Ellegaard with increased enthusiasm about the accreditation process.

“AAALAC provided Ellegaard with an important mechanism to validate their program internationally,” said Miller. AAALAC accreditation provides a means to validate animal care and use programs to a single international standard, applying multinational directives and guidelines and a country’s current implementing requirements as the basis for evaluating a program. Organizations such as Ellegaard Göttingen and others seek accreditation as a means of verifying the high quality of their current programs and demonstrating their openness to possible improvements.

“Every time another animal care and use program in another country becomes accredited, it contributes to raising the global benchmark for animal well-being. This benefits the animals and enhances the quality of science,” Miller said.

AAALAC International continues to be the worldwide choice of responsible animal care and use programs. Ellegaard Göttingen Minipigs has recognized the value of accreditation through public recognition, reinforcement of a commitment to excellence in animal care and use and an advantage in the global marketplace.
The Toxicology Research Center (TRC) in Taejon, Korea recently became the first Korean unit accredited by AAALAC International. Located about 150 km south of Seoul, Korea, this nonprofit research laboratory conducts toxicology and environmental testing for chemical, pharmaceutical and food industries.

AAALAC Council members Robert M. Werner, D.V.M. and Thomas M. Butler, D.V.M., M.S. led the TRC site visit. Dr. Butler had spent a year in Korea as a veterinarian with the Air Force in 1962-63 and enjoyed seeing how the region has changed. “I loved my years of living in Korea -- it’s such a friendly place. The country has grown a great deal since I was last there -- quiet villages are now active commercial regions, but the people are still wonderful,”

The hardworking and hospitable people at TRC also impressed Drs. Werner and Butler. “Administrators, caretakers and technicians were all enthusiastic about the process. They worked hard to meet AAALAC’s performance standards and their efforts were successful,” said Butler.

Instrumental in the TRC effort to ensure the company’s successful accreditation bid was Dr. Kap Lee of the University of North Dakota. Originally from Korea, Lee has worked with the administrative personnel at TRC to assist them with the translation of AAALAC documents and review of their procedures. Dr. Lee is also assisting other Korean facilities in preparations for their possible future site visits.

Sang-Seop Han, Ph.D., Director of the Toxicology Research Center at the Korea Research Institute of Chemical Technology, is a strong advocate of accreditation. He contributed a great deal to his company’s successful accreditation effort. Dr. Han’s enthusiasm about TRC’s award of full accreditation showed during a presentation of TRC’s accreditation plaque. While on business in the U.S., Dr. Han stopped by the AAALAC International office for an “official” presentation of the plaque.

“TRC should be proud of their accomplishment. They have demonstrated for other facilities in the region that AAALAC accreditation is attainable. The example they have set will help increase an awareness of AAALAC throughout the continent,” commented Dr. Werner.
In recognition…..

Dr. Stanley Curtis Receives Bennett J. Cohen Award

Past chair of the AAALAC International Board of Trustees (BOT) and internationally recognized expert on the management and use of farm animals in research, testing and education, Dr. Stanley Curtis was honored with AAALAC’s most prestigious award, The Bennett J. Cohen Award.

Dr. Curtis worked in academia throughout his career after earning his Ph.D. at Purdue University. His reputation as a scientist, consultant and advisor in the care and use of farm animals is legendary. Dr. Curtis served 14 years on the AAALAC Board of Trustees, and as chair from 1993-96.

During his tenure he demonstrated remarkable energy and a steadfast commitment to AAALAC.

Named in honor of the late Bennett J. Cohen, the Cohen Award recognizes highly unique individuals who have provided insight, distinguished leadership and dedication to the discipline of laboratory animal science. It is presented to individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to advancing the quality of laboratory animal care in research, testing and education. Charles C. Lobeck, M.D., past Chair of the BOT received the initial Cohen award in 1990, and Dr. John Mulder, former Council Chair and interim Executive Director of AAALAC was honored in 1994.

Dr. Cohen was a visionary in the field of laboratory animal science. He was instrumental in the founding of several well-known laboratory animal science organizations including AAALAC, AALAS, and ACLAM. He was an ardent friend of the animal research and life science community and a steadfast supporter of AAALAC and the accreditation process. Dr. Cohen also served as the first Chairman of AAALAC’s Council on Accreditation.

Dr. Larry Byrd Honored for AAALAC Service

Larry D. Byrd, Ph.D. was recognized at the AAALAC Annual Meeting for meritorious service throughout his tenure as a member and chair of the Board of Trustees (BOT).

Dr. Byrd served as the American Psychological Association’s representative to the AAALAC International BOT from 1990 to 1998 and completed a term as Secretary, one as Vice-Chair and two as Chair of the Board.

Dr. Byrd retired as Research Professor and Chief of the Division of Behavioral Biology at Yerkes Regional Primate Research Center, and as Professor of the Department of Pharmacology at Emory University School of Medicine. He has also served as an officer of several scientific societies, and as a member of numerous research review boards and committees.

The AAALAC BOT underwent a period of significant growth and implemented many positive changes during Dr. Byrd’s years of service, including the inclusion of the first European member organization.
AAALAC Takes Steps in Europe

AAALAC Executive Director Dr. John Miller, Associate Director Dr. Kathryn Bayne and President of the Board Dr. Ronald McLaughlin recently met with a panel of interested members of the European laboratory animal science community to discuss the progress and possible future development of AAALAC’s office in Europe.

AAALAC’s European office was established in 1997 in Brussels, Belgium, to facilitate the provision of information on AAALAC evaluation and accreditation services to European institutions that use animals in research, teaching or testing. The AAALAC Brussels office currently offers a full range of informational services for the European laboratory animal care and use community.

According to Miller, the meeting was extremely beneficial. “The increased interest in AAALAC throughout Europe is very exciting for us. The meeting provided several sound avenues of possible development. I hope to gain additional feedback in the coming months at various European conferences.”

Dr. Miller and Dr. Bayne will be participating in a variety of European events throughout the coming months. Dr. Miller will be participating in a seminar and Dr. Bayne will be presenting a paper, “What’s New in Promoting Nonhuman Primate Welfare?” at the May, 1999 ICLAS/FELASA/SECAL Joint Meeting in Mallorca, Spain. Dr. Miller is co-chairing a workshop, “Harmonizing Animal Care and Use Committee Practices,” at the World Congress on Alternatives in Bologna, Italy in August; and will present a lecture on “International Standards Governing the Welfare of Animals Used for Scientific Purposes” at the World Wide Veterinary Congress in Lyon, France in September.

Congratulations to these programs for recently earning accreditation!

River Valley Farms, Inc.
Marine on St. Croix, MN

Tularik Inc.
South San Francisco, CA

College of Medicine
University of South Alabama
Mobile, AL

Microcide
Mountain View, CA

Isis Pharmaceuticals
Carlsbad, CA

Sierra Biomedical, Inc.
San Diego, CA

NPS Pharmaceuticals
Salt Lake City, UT

Chiron Corporation
Emeryville, CA

Charles River Laboratories, Inc.
Portage, MI

Introducing…..
Board Chair,
Ronald M. McLaughlin,
D.V.M., M.S.

Dr. McLaughlin is Director of the Office of Laboratory Animal Medicine and Professor of Veterinary Pathobiology at the University of Missouri. His research activities have involved the health and welfare of experimental animals.

Dr. McLaughlin received his master’s degree and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Iowa State University. He is also board certified by the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine. He served in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps and was a laboratory animal veterinarian at the U. S. Army Biomedical Laboratories at Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland.

Dr. McLaughlin has been on the AAALAC Board of Trustees as the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) representative since 1990 and has served on the AAALAC Executive Committee as a Member-at-Large, 1992-94, Treasurer, 1995, Secretary, 1996, and Vice Chair, 1997. He is also a past president of AALAS and the American Society of Laboratory Animal Practitioners (ASLAP).
AAALAC Launches Global Gateway

AAALAC International recently established one of the most complete international listings of animal care and use resources available on the World Wide Web. The *Global Gateway* already provides hundreds of links to international resources and information but we’d like to see it grow to be the most comprehensive listing for the international laboratory animal community.

Check out the *Global Gateway* at http://www.aaalac.org/html/global_gateway.html. If you know of a site which would be of interest and informative to our website visitors, please forward the Internet address to accredit@aaalac.org, for possible addition to our list.

E-brief reminder.....

If you receive the AAALAC E-brief and have a new e-mail address, please notify the AAALAC office through the accredit@aaalac.org address, so we may keep our listing current and make sure our interested members don’t miss out on an issue of the E-brief. E-briefs are periodic e-mail updates of the latest AAALAC news and are available free of charge to any individual affiliated with an accredited unit. If you are not currently on the E-brief mailing list and would like to be, send your request to accredit@aaalac.org.

Look for us at these upcoming International Events....

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<td>May 1999</td>
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Meet the AAALAC Europe Staff...

**Mary McCue,**
**Account Director**

Since 1989, Mary has held various association management positions with Smith Bucklin Associates in Washington, D.C. and Interel in Brussels. She has worked as an association manager for diverse groups spanning the food and beverage industry, agri-business, and high-tech telecommunications.

Mary’s management experience includes marketing communications for non-profit industry associations. Since 1994, Mary has served as business unit director for the Interel Association Management division, including start-up and operational management, liaison with US partners, and business development. She holds a BA in German Studies from Rice University in Houston, Texas, USA and speaks English, German and French.

**Marie-Luce Feugier**
**Account Manager**

Since 1997, Marie-Luce has held various association management positions with Interel in Brussels, working for diverse industries such as outplacement, high-tech/telecommunications and home décor manufacturing.

Marie-Luce previously worked for seven years with a European network of business centers, in the marketing and communication departments. She holds a BA in marketing and communication from EAD, Paris, France, and speaks French, English and Spanish.
AAALAC International has received permission from Theorodus Ruys, editor and copyright holder for the Handbook of Facilities Planning, to reprint and distribute this unique text on facility design. Out of print since 1993, the Handbook is a valuable resource for individuals and organizations seeking to redesign or construct a laboratory animal facility.

The Handbook contains details on codes, regulations and standards; laboratory animal facilities planning and design including chapters on architectural finishes and costs issues; as well as sections on equipment selection and mechanical systems.

Individuals interested in obtaining a copy of this publication may complete the order form below or call the AAALAC office for more information.

**Handbook of Facilities Planning, Volume 2 Order Form**

Please forward a copy of the Handbook of Facilities Planning, Volume 2, Laboratory Animal Facilities in the following format to:

- _____ CD Rom ($25.00 USD)
- _____ Spiral Bound Book ($35.00 USD)

Name:______________________________________________________________________
Mailing Address:______________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
Phone:_________________________  E-Mail:______________________________________

Method of Payment
- O check enclosed
- O Please charge the credit card listed below

Card Type (please circle): VISA    M/C    Discover    American Express

Card number:______________________________________________________________
Exp. Date:________________

Authorized Signature______________________________________________________________________

Mail the above form and payment to: AAALAC International
11300 Rockville Pike, Suite 1211
Rockville, Maryland 20852-3035

For more information contact the AAALAC office at 301/231-5353
The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals has recently been translated into the Korean, Japanese, and Chinese languages. Upcoming translations include Spanish and Russian, due out by early Summer, 1999. A French edition is in production and expected to be published in the Fall. A Portuguese version is also currently under consideration for future publication.

The conversion of this important text will inform the native speakers of these languages of methods and practices that have proven to be consistent with high-quality, humane animal care and use.

ESLAV

The European Society of Laboratory Animal Veterinarians (ESLAV) was created at the 6th FELASA symposium held in June of 1996 in Basel, Switzerland. This initial meeting was called by David Whittaker from Zeneca Pharmaceuticals in the UK. About 100 veterinarians from different European countries were present, as well as two colleagues from the U.S.

One of the objectives of the Society is to give veterinarians a forum to discuss issues concerning laboratory animal science in general and in Europe specifically. Veterinarians who work full time or part time as consultants in this field need to keep themselves updated with regard to changing and evolving laws and regulations in Europe, in individual nations, as well as world-wide.

European regulations should ensure veterinary oversight of animal care and use programs. Another important objective of this Society is to set the right environment for and support creation of the European College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ECLAM).

More information on ESLAV can be found on their website at: http://www.eslav.org.

ECLAM

The European College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ECLAM) is a proposed certification body for the specialty of laboratory animal medicine. Reported to be modeled after the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM), ECLAM will establish its own European standards of education, training, experience and expertise necessary to become qualified as a specialist in laboratory animal medicine and to recognize that achievement through board certification.

ECLAM will benefit the European laboratory animal community through professional continuing education activities, the development of educational materials and research.

ECLAM’s organizational status will be discussed at the FELASA/ICLAS/SECAL meeting in Palma de Mallorca, Spain in May, 1999. ECLAM will be overseen by the European Board of Veterinary Specialization.

More information on ECLAM can be found on their website at: http://www.eclam.org.

ICLAS/ FELASA/ SECAL

International Meeting

An international joint meeting sponsored by ICLAS, FELASA and SECAL will take place in Palma de Mallorca, Balearic Islands, Spain on May 26-28, 1999. This meeting will include the 12th ICLAS General Assembly and Conference and the 7th FELASA Symposium, entitled “Animal Research and Welfare: A Partnership.”

The ICLAS/FELASA/SECAL Organizing Committee is working hard to develop a strong program. Subject matter will include seminars on nonhuman primates; disease control; international harmonization of standards for health monitoring and genetics, training, education, welfare and environment; xenotransplantation; laboratory animal husbandry; and ethical issues. Peter Doherty, D.V.M., Nobel Laureate, will be the featured ICLAS speaker and will make the ICLAS Muhlbock Award presentation. Dr. L.F.M. van Zutphen of the Netherlands will give the ICLAS Ben Cohen lecture. Speakers include several experts from Europe and the U.S. The official language of the meeting is English.

To receive more information on hotels, pre- and post- meeting tours, registration forms and abstracts forms please contact: Dr. Josep Tur, Chairman, Universitat de les Illes Balears, Departament de Biologia Fonamental i Ciencies de la Salut, Edifici Guillem Colom, Campus, E-07071 Palma de Mallorca (Balearic Islands), Spain. Telephone: 34 971 173 146 Fax: 34 971 173 184 Email: dbsjtm0@ps.uib.es; Internet: http://www.hulp.es/secal.meeting.html.
January Council news ……

by Kathryn A. Bayne, M.S., Ph.D., D.V.M.


Update on AAALAC’s Streamlined Program Description

The streamlined Program Description, prepared in response to recommendations from the 1998 AAALAC International Opinion Survey of Accredited Programs, is being pilot tested with several institutions scheduled for a routine site visit in the Summer 1999 trimester. The institutions selected to participate in the pilot test reflect the various industry sectors accredited by AAALAC (academia, commercial, government, non-profit), different geographic regions and animal program size. AAALAC is soliciting feedback from the participating institutions, as well as from the Council members leading the visits to these programs, for ways to improve the abbreviated Description. These recommendations will be considered by Council and appropriate modifications made. It is anticipated that general availability of the streamlined Program Description will occur for the Winter trimester 2000.

Two Additional Reference Resources Adopted by Council

The Council on Accreditation voted to include the revised Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Agricultural Research and Teaching (1999) in its entirety to the AAALAC International Resource list. Previously, only the species specific chapters (Chapters 5-11) in the 1988 Ag Guide were utilized by Council. It is Council’s intent to develop an updated position statement on the care and use of agricultural animals in accredited programs at the May 1999 Council business meeting which reflects adoption of the revised Ag Guide.

Council also added the Institute for Laboratory Animal Research’s new publication, The Psychological Well-Being of Nonhuman Primates (1998) to the Resource list. The Council also approved the review committee’s recommendation that institutions which have to strengthen their nonhuman primate psychological well-being programs be provided a reasonable transition period to accomplish the improvements.

New Council Members Elected

The Executive Committee of AAALAC’s Board of Trustees ratified Council’s election of five new members and the re-election of two members of Council, bringing the total membership of Council to thirty. Council terms are four years and begin July 1, 1999. Congratulations to:

Ronald E. Banks, D.V.M.
Director, Office of Laboratory Animal Resources
University of Colorado Health Science Center

Joseph N. Benoit, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Physiology
University of South Alabama

Barbara A. Garibaldi, D.V.M.
Director, Animal Facility
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

Herod L. Howard, D.V.M., M.P.V.M.*
Director, Animal Resources Center
Beckman Research Institute of the City of Hope

Alan C. Rosenquist, Ph.D.*
Associate Dean for Basic Science Education & Professor of Neuroscience
University of Pennsylvania Medical Center

Dorcas O. Schaeffer, D.V.M., M.S.
Director, Office of Laboratory Animal Care
University of Tennessee

Joseph D. Thulin, D.V.M., M.S.
Director, Office of Laboratory Animal Resources
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

*Re-elected to Council.
New Council Officers Elected

Effective July 1, 1999, the following Council members will begin a one year term in the office indicated:

**President**
Thomas M. Butler, D.V.M., M.S.

**Vice President**
Douglas W. Stone, D.V.M., M.S.

**Section Leader**
Hilton J. Klein, V.M.D.
Christine M. Parks, D.V.M., Ph.D.

**Assistant Section Leader**
Michael B. Ballinger, D.V.M.
Bradford S. Goodwin, Jr., D.V.M.
Alan C. Rosenquist, Ph.D.

Council Member Profiles

**Elizabeth Gard, D.V.M.**
Dr. Gard earned her D.V.M. at Louisiana State University in 1977 and became a Diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine in 1987. She is currently the attending veterinarian at Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc. (OAP) in Rockville, Maryland.

Dr. Gard also serves as the consulting veterinarian and Chair of the IACUC at Thomas D. Morris, Inc. in Reisterstown, Maryland. Prior to working at OAP, Dr. Gard was the principal investigator at Advanced Resource Technologies, Inc. Since 1986, she has served as a veterinarian member of the IACUC for the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC). Dr. Gard has been an ad hoc Consultant for AAALAC since 1990. She is a member of SCAW, AVMA, AALAS, and NCAB/AALAS.

**David DeLong, D.V.M., M.S.**
Dr. DeLong received his D.V.M. from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York in 1978. He began his veterinary career as a small animal practitioner in New Jersey and several years later became Staff Veterinarian and Manager of Laboratory Animal Resources at Carter-Wallace, Inc.

In 1984, he entered a training program in Laboratory Animal Medicine at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. After completion of the training program, he remained at the University as an Associate Clinical Specialist in the Division of Comparative Medicine. Since 1995, he has been Chief of the Veterinary Medical Unit at the VA Medical Center, Minneapolis, and has maintained a University appointment in the Division of Comparative Medicine.

Dr. DeLong has been an AAALAC ad hoc Consultant since 1992. He is a member of AALAS and the Association of VA Veterinary Medical Officers. He is also a Diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine, and currently sits on the college’s Credentials Committee.

**Stephen T. Kelley, D.V.M., M.S.**
Dr. Kelley is currently the head of the Division of Animal Resources and Senior Veterinarian of the Oregon Regional Primate Research Center in Beaverton, Oregon. He received his D.V.M. and M.S. in Physiology from Kansas State University.

He has served in the U.S. Army Reserve Veterinary Corps for 30 years and is an ACLAM Diplomate. Among his many activities in the field of laboratory animal science are: Veterinary Medical Reviewer, Department of Veteran Affairs; Member of the Oregon Regional Primate Research Center Biohazard Committee; Adjunct Professor of Laboratory Animal Medicine at Portland Community College and member of the College’s IACUC; Assistant Professor, Department of Comparative Medicine, Oregon Health Sciences at the University of Portland, Oregon.

Dr. Kelley spent 12 years (1985-1997) as an AAALAC ad hoc Consultant and is currently a member of AVMA, AALAS, ASLAP, APV, OVMA, and PVMA.
AAALAC Awarded Barbour Grant for Support of Inaugural Conference.

AAALAC International was recently awarded a $30,000 grant from the Bernice Barbour Foundation in support of the AAALAC International Trends and Expectations Conference. The Bernice Barbour Foundation is a private charity established by the late Bernice Wall Barbour. It is a trust to be used for preservation and care of animals and prevention of cruelty to animals in the U.S. The foundation supports organizations which directly benefit animals.

The purpose of the conference is to educate laboratory animal science professionals on the most common deficiencies found during AAALAC’s hundreds of evaluations over the past several years. By tracking the trends and common deficiencies found during site visits and sharing the data with the animal care and use community, issues that continue to be of concern can be addressed.

The international conference is the first produced by AAALAC and is expected to provide laboratory animal veterinarians, scientists, and research administrators with valuable information regarding program standards. The conference will feature presentations from some of AAALAC’s most experienced representatives; solution panels featuring accredited unit representatives; Q & A sessions; and round table discussions moderated by experts in the field.

The grant will be used to offset direct costs of this important project. AAALAC is grateful to the Bernice Barbour Foundation for the opportunity to bring this information to the animal care and use community.

The inaugural conference will take place on September 22 and 23, 1999 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia.

The tentative schedule of topics is in the sidebar. Registration for the conference may be completed online at http://www.aaalac.org, or by submitting the completed registration form on page 15 of this newsletter.

Tentative Conference Schedule

**Wednesday, September 22**

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Breakfast and Registration

8:30 - 8:45 a.m.
Welcome by Dr. Ronald McLaughlin

8:45 - 9:15 a.m.
Trend Data presented by Dr. Kathryn Bayne

9:15 - 9:45 a.m.
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Deficiencies

9:45 - 10:30 a.m.
IACUC Panel

10:30 - 10:45 a.m.
IACUC Q & A

10:45 - 11:00 a.m.
Break

11:00 - 11:20 a.m.
Improving Your Program -- Topic I

11:20 - 11:30 a.m.
Topic I Q & A

11:30 - 11:50 a.m.
Improving Your Program -- Topic II

11:50 a.m. - noon
Topic II Q & A

Noon - 1:15 p.m.
LUNCH

1:15 - 1:45 p.m.
Occupational Health & Safety Program (OHSP) Deficiencies

1:45 - 2:30 p.m.
OHSP Panel

2:30 - 2:45 p.m.
OHSP Q & A

2:45 - 3:00 p.m.
Break

3:00 - 3:20 p.m.
Improving Your Program -- Topic III

3:20 - 3:30 p.m.
Topic III Q & A

3:30 - 4:00 p.m.
Facilities Deficiencies

4:00 - 4:45 p.m.
Facilities Panel

4:45 - 5:00 p.m.
Facilities Q & A

**Thursday, September 23**

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Breakfast

Concurrent Breakout Sessions on (1) IACUCs, (2) OHSP and (3) Facilities to be repeated at 8:30, 9:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Laboratory animal veterinarians, scientists, managers and research administrators will gain insight on common deficiencies in laboratory animal programs through presentations by experienced AAALAC representatives. Round-tables, unit presentations and panel discussions will also provide solutions to common program deficiencies.

Details of the AAALAC International Conference will be finalized in the coming months. Registration begins March 15, 1999 and is limited to 300 participants. Don’t miss out on this opportunity -- register or request more information today! Online registration at www.aaalac.org

☐ Please send me more information on the AAALAC Trends and Expectations Conference.
☐ Please register me for the conference--my payment is enclosed.

Hotel reservations must be made through the Hyatt Regency, Crystal City, VA. Phone: 703/418-1234 (Refer to AAALAC Conference when making reservation for special rate.)

Name: ________________________________
Title: ________________________________
Organization: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
City: __________________ State/Province: __________________
ZIP/Postal Code: __________________ Country: __________________
Telephone: ( )________________________ Fax: ( )________________________
E-mail: ________________________________

Conference Fee: $300.00

Method of Payment  O check enclosed  O Please charge the credit card listed below
Card Type (please circle): VISA  M/C  Discover  American Express
Card number: ________________________________ Exp. Date: _________________

Authorized Signature

Please mail or fax registration form to:
AAALAC International, 11300 Rockville Pike, Suite 1211, Rockville, Maryland 20852-3035, Fax: 301/231-8282

Hotel reservations must be made through the Hyatt Regency (see contact information above).
Quality Laboratory Animal Care: AAALAC Trends and Expectations

Crystal City, VA
September 22-23, 1999

Presentations and discussions of the following issues:

• IACUC
• Occupational Health and Safety
• Facilities

Breakout sessions will deal with attendees’ specific concerns.

Registration is limited--reserve your space today!