

Monthly newsletter



February 2014

Notices and news	1	Online Forms – Mozilla Firefox	3
JAX Mouse Pathology Workshop	1	Important AEC Information	3
New Threatened Species Management Program: Saving our Species	1	AEC Endorsed SOP's	3
The Use Of Wildlife For Research Purposes In Queensland	2	Reminder to all Researchers.....	3
NeuroBioBank Gives Researchers One-Stop Access to Post-Mortem Brains.....	2	Training opportunities this month	3
VPB NSW – NSW Health – Up-scheduling of Alprazolam to S8.....	2	Animal Ethics Calendar	4
The Aesthetics of Euthanasia.....	2	Next Application submission deadline date 2014	4
Webcast: New initiatives in the 3Rs for biomedical research	2	Next Animal Ethics Committee Meeting date 2014	4
Tips and Hints for your applications	3	Animal Ethics Committee Meeting dates 2014	4
		Contributions	4

Notices and news

JAX Mouse Pathology Workshop

The JAX Mouse Pathology Workshop, Sydney 2014 is a unique opportunity to attend a quality Jackson Laboratory workshop in the beautiful city of Sydney. This is the first time that this workshop has been held in Australia and it promises to be a fantastic opportunity for veterinarians and scientists to expand their knowledge of mouse pathology led by a team of world - class speakers. For registrants, university training in histopathology is assumed.

New Threatened Species Management Program: Saving our Species

On 14 December 2013, the Minister for the Environment, the Hon Robyn Parker MP announced *Saving our Species*, the new NSW Government program that provides a coherent over-arching framework for the management of threatened species in NSW.

The program launches a new web-based platform where everyone can find out about the actions that could contribute to the recovery of threatened species in their local area and where researchers and community groups can record the work they do, that contributes to the programs outcomes.

Feel free to explore the public OEH website.

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/savingourspecies/about.htm>

The Use Of Wildlife For Research Purposes In Queensland

A directive has been received from the Queensland Director – Wildlife Management regarding the use of wildlife for research purposes in Queensland.

The confirmed stance of the Department is *"that animals that are taken from the wild for research purposes and subsequently placed into a laboratory environment are not released back into the wild. This is an initiative designed to reduce the risk that novel diseases will be carried back into healthy wildlife populations. It is our preference that animals taken from the wild into laboratories are placed with other research programs, or humanely euthanized once the program concludes.*

Further enquiries should be directed to Ms Sally Egan, Regional Manager – Southern, Wildlife Management

NeuroBioBank Gives Researchers One-Stop Access to Post-Mortem Brains

The NIH is shifting from a limited funding role to coordinating a Web-based resource for sharing post-mortem brain tissue, a move which is expected to expedite research on brain disorders. Instead of having to seek out brain tissue needed for a study from scattered repositories, researchers will have one-stop access to the specimens they need.

VPB NSW – NSW Health – Up-scheduling of Alprazolam to S8

Chief Pharmacist, Pharmaceuticals Services Unit, NSW Ministry of Health that alprazolam will become a Schedule 8 drug (drug of addiction) from 1 February 2014

The Aesthetics of Euthanasia

The aesthetics of various euthanasia methods is being studied at the Indiana University School of Medicine IACUC and researchers are seeking participants from all over the world. Volunteers will be required to watch and comment on videos. They have designed a study to obtain unbiased feedback from individuals who are observing rats or mice being euthanized using isoflurane (5% inhaled, 1 L/min O₂), pentobarbital (145mg/kg IP), or carbon dioxide at a variety of flow rates (10%/min, 30%/min, 50%/min, 70%/min, 90%/min).

If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Dr Hickman directly at: hickmand@iupui.edu

Webcast: New initiatives in the 3Rs for biomedical research

<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/health-ethics/animal-research-ethics/webcast-new-initiatives-3rs-biomedical-research>

On 13 February 2014, NHMRC will be sponsoring a webcast presentation on the new initiatives in the replacement, reduction and refinement of animal use (the 3Rs) in biomedical research. The webcast will be presented by Professor Thomas Hartung (Professor of Toxicology, Pharmacology, Molecular Microbiology and Immunology, and Director of the Centre for Alternatives to Animal Testing, at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, USA).

While the intended audience for the podcast is biomedical researchers, it will be of interest to any person involved with the care and use of animals for scientific purposes including institutional officials, researchers in all fields, teachers, members of animal ethics committees, veterinarians, animal welfare organisations, Commonwealth, state and territory governments and the general community.

Webcast details:**Date:** Thursday 13 February 2014**Time:** 3.00pm AEDST**Where:** [Access the webcast here](#)

Tips and Hints for your applications

Online Forms – Mozilla Firefox

As we continue on our Online Form Adventure, please note that we currently recommend using Mozilla Firefox. This server currently seems to provide the smoothest operation of the online forms.

Important AEC Information

AEC Endorsed SOP's

The list of SOP's endorsed by the AEC has recently grown to 35. We hope to have each of these SOP's available for viewing via the online application forms. By standardising commonly performed procedures as AEC endorsed SOP's, precise instruction (that includes pre-consideration of animal welfare impacts) is readily accessible and able to be incorporated into your next AEC submission – a great way to speed up approval.

Reminder to all Researchers

In accord with AEC and institutional policies and the [Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes](#), researchers have an obligation to provide annual reports on approved projects regardless of the duration of the project.

Training opportunities this month

Please contact the AWO for any training requirements.

New Researcher training has been incorporated into the CAF Induction process. The format of this training will be refined over the next few months to ultimately deliver the best possible service to new researchers or any researcher looking to refresh their skills.

Animal Ethics Calendar

Next Application submission deadline date 2014

Monday 31 March 2014

Next Animal Ethics Committee Meeting date 2014

Thursday 20 February 2014 (First AEC meeting of the year)

Animal Ethics Committee Meeting dates 2014

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS*	MEETING DATE
Tuesday 28 January 2014	Thursday 20 February 2014
Friday 28 February 2014	Thursday 20 March 2014
Monday 31 March 2014	Thursday 17 April 2014
Monday 28 April 2014	Thursday 15 May 2014
Monday 26 May 2014	Thursday 19 June 2014
Monday 30 June 2014	Thursday 17 July 2014
Monday 28 July 2014	Thursday 14 August 2014
Monday 25 August 2014	Thursday 18 September 2014
Monday 29 September 2014	Thursday 16 October 2014
Monday 24 November 2014	Thursday 11 December 2014

Contributions

If you would like to contribute to the Animal Ethics monthly newsletter, kindly email that content for the next month's newsletter.

Should you have any queries regarding your research, please do not hesitate to contact me:

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Alternatively, for more information about AEC policies, procedures, forms and ethical clearance requirements, please go to our webpage at http://www.research.mq.edu.au/for/researchers/how_to_obtain_ethics_approval/animal_ethics