

SEALAS

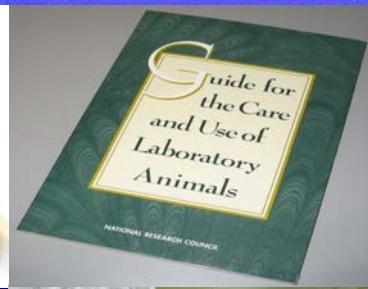
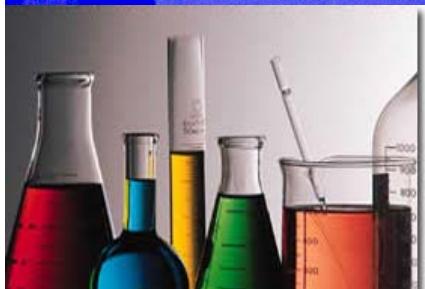


NEWSLETTER

Volume 39, Issue 7

December 2007

ADVANCING THE POSSIBILITIES



2007 SEAALAS Officers

President: Chris Carter

President Elect: Dean Blake

Past President: Kim Benjamin

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Commercial Liasion:

Don Raleigh

Communications:

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Deidre Wright

Lauren Wilson

Chris Carter

Legislation:

Leanne Alworth

Nominations:

Lisa Wilson

Program 2008:

Michael Swindle -Chair

Allison Smith

Jessica McLaughlin

Kristin Garner

TBR:

Peg Rentz

Web Site:

Chris Carter

Fall, Winter SEAALAS Presidents Letter

As things cool off as fall turns to winter SEAALAS is heating up as it gears up for the annual meeting in Savannah Georgia. At this meeting, I'll be turning over the gavel to our incoming president Dean Blake as he assumes duties as SEAALAS president and I'll move on to be past-president. Jessica McLaughlin and the program committee have been working hard and are tying up loose ends and finalizing all the details of the meeting. As always, preliminary program information can be found at the SEAALAS web site.

SEAALAS elections have been held and the ballots have been returned and counted. The results will be made available to the SEAALAS membership around December 1, 2007. In general, about half of all the ballots mailed were returned to be counted.

Also, the deadline to nominate co-workers for SEAALAS awards has passed and the awards committee are reviewing the nominations and working hard to make their final decisions.

As this will be my final "President's Letter," I'd like to thank everyone that has provided support for myself and the branch throughout the year. Without the support of the Executive Board, Committee Chairs and members, and everyone else that volunteered being President it would have been much more difficult.

To those wishing to get involved but don't know where to start: feel free to give myself or any officer a call or email and we'll point you in the right direction!

Happy Holidays and I'm looking forward to seeing you all in Savannah in January!

Chris Carter

From the Editor

The beginning of a new year is often a time for reflection. We look back at the past year's accomplishments and gaze forward with anticipation and ambitions for the year ahead. The close of 2007 marks my first anniversary as newsletter Editor. In reflecting on the year I feel a sense of accomplishment, yet I know there are still many things that can be done to make the newsletter even better, so with this in mind I have agreed to stay on as Editor for another term. There are no words to express my gratitude to all of the people who contributed to the newsletter in 2007, my connection with the newsletter has allowed me to work with a variety of dedicated and wonderful individuals and I look forward to another year and your contributions to the newsletter.

January brings a whole new year and a fresh slate to accomplish our goals. My goal is to make our newsletter not only a source for news but a resource for sharing information and ideas, and I'm asking for your help to work with me toward achieving this goal. This issue kicks off a new column titled "Tech Tips" similar to our very successful "Tech Talks" sessions during our annual SEAALAS meeting. With this column I'm looking forward to featuring your simple tips, strategies and techniques that you find enhance your job, make your job easier or has been beneficial to the health and well-being of laboratory animals.

In reflection and in closing 2007, I have put together pictures and created a movie of SEAALAS throughout the years. To view the movie click [here](http://www.seaalas.org/images/Heroesbehindthescience.wmv), be sure to give it a few minutes to load...

<http://www.seaalas.org/images/Heroesbehindthescience.wmv>

I look forward to another year with SEAALAS and hope to see you all in Savannah next month!

—Sandy Williams RVT, LATG
Atlanta VA Medical Center
sandy.yurevich@va.gov



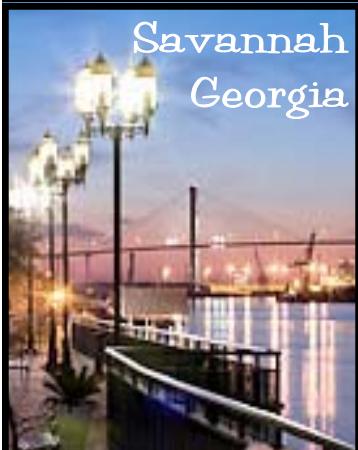
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SEAALAS Annual Meeting January 24-25th 2008



Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet

SEAALAS Program

Savannah Marriott Riverfront

January 24-25, 2008

NEW BEGINNINGS

Take a Chance on Something New!

Wednesday, January 23

3:00-5:00 Registration
5:00-7:00 Board Meeting
8:00-11:00 Optional Haunted Pub-Tour-\$10/person,
Advanced registration is required by
January 15.[http://
www.ghostsavannah.com/
haunted_pub.aspx](http://www.ghostsavannah.com/haunted_pub.aspx)



Thursday, January 24

8:00-5:00 Registration
7:00-8:30 Continental Breakfast
8:30-11:00 Tech Talks-Peg Rentz
11:00-1:00 Buffet Lunch
1:00 New Science in Savannah: Translational Research at Memorial Health University Medical Center-Jeff Boyd, PhD
1:30 Lean Practices for Lab Managers-Bill Britz
2:00 An Introduction to Clicker Training; Rethinking Animal Management Strategies-Scott Robbins
2:30 The Road to AALAS Certification:
Why Should I Make That Turn?-Peg Rentz
3:00 Break/Exhibits
3:30 New Beginnings - Do you really want to start over? (Avoiding Catastrophic Loss)-Chris Kanaby
3:45 Lab Animal Diets – Your Formula for Success - Terry Burns-Heffner
4:00 Purina LabDiet – Your Work is Worth it - David Blocker
4:15 Innovations from NuAire-J.B. Williams
4:30 Business Process Analysis; Why should we change the way we have always done it?-Michael Tucker
4:45 Adjourn
5:00 Beer and Wine Reception in Exhibits
7:00 Awards Banquet



Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet

SEAALAS Program

Savannah Marriott Riverfront
January 24-25, 2008

NEW BEGINNINGS

Take a Chance on Something New!



Friday, January 25

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 7:00 | Continental Breakfast/Registration |
| 8:15 | New Ways of Looking at Anesthesia and Surgery in Rodents and Rabbits
Jörg Mayer, Dr.med.vet., MSc, MRCVS |
| 9:30 | A New Approach to Rodent Watering -Michael F. O'Connor |
| 10:00 | Laboratory Animal Allergens-Rob Nelms |
| 10:15 | Advanced Room Decontamination -Paula Cannella |
| 10:30 | Coffee Break |
| 10:45 | The World of the Automated Vivarium -Angelo Sarto |
| 11:00 | New Enrichment Products and Ideas –Carmen Costa |
| 11:15 | Microfiber-/Cutting Edge Technology for Commercial Cleaning –Don Raleigh |
| 11:30 | New Technologies in Contamination Control-Bob Moorman |
| 11:45 | A “Behind-the-Scenes” Look at Lab Animal Transportation-Brian Clark |
| 12:00 | Commissioning – Kurt Last |
| 12:15 | Adjourn |
| 1:00 | Optional tour of the new animal facilities and labs at Savannah Memorial Hospital. Sign up at the registration desk and receive instructions. |

Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet

SEAALAS Program Speakers

**Savannah Marriott Riverfront
January 24-25, 2008
NEW BEGINNINGS**

Take a Chance on Something New!



David Blocker
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Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet

SEAALAS Program Speakers Cont.

**Savannah Marriott Riverfront
January 24-25, 2008
NEW BEGINNINGS**

Take a Chance on Something New!

Kurt Last, President
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Head of Exotics Service
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rnelms@tecniplastusa.com



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Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet

SEAALAS Program Speakers Cont.

Savannah Marriott Riverfront
January 24-25, 2008
NEW BEGINNINGS

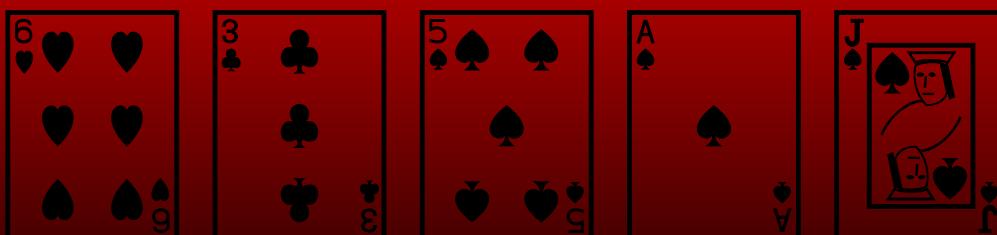
Take a Chance on Something New!



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Angelo.sarto@edstrom.com

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Vice President, Sales
TOPAZ Technologies
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770-251-1505.
jbw@medrep-inc.org



Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet

SEAALAS Haunted Pub Crawl

A Three-Hour
Candlelight Walking
Tour of Savannah's
Haunted Pubs



SEAALAS will be taking a private tour,
required registration, RSVP Jessica by Jan 15th
mclauje1@memorialhealth.com

The tour group will meet in the lobby of the Marriott at 7:30 pm on Wednesday Jan 23rd and will last 3 hours. The cost per person is \$10 and does not include the drinks. This is a walking tour of the historic downtown areas, though we will not be walking for the entire 3 hrs. The tour guide makes stops at bars/pubs along the way for drinking and bathroom breaks.. For more information visit

http://www.ghostsavannah.com/haunted_pub.aspx

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Concierge	Yes
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Number of Kings.....	222
Number of Dbl/Dbl's	123
Non-Smoking	356

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Square Footage of Largest Room. .	14,860
Number of Meeting Rooms.....	17
Number of Board Rooms.....	2

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-The Atrium Lounge-

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Mighty 8th Air Force Heritage Museum
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Taxes: 13% + \$1 city occupancy fee

Parking: \$12 self parking daily; \$15 valet parking daily

SE/AALAS ANNUAL MEETING AND AWARDS BANQUET

January 24-25, 2008

Program Title: New Beginnings in Lab Animal Technology

Program Committee: Jessica McLaughlin, Kristin Garner, Alison Smith, Michael Swindle

For Further Information:

Savannah Marriott Riverfront
Sales Office
100 General McIntosh Blvd.
Savannah, Ga. 31401
Phone: 912-233-7722
Fax: 912-233-8897
www.marriott.com/savr

PRINT THIS PAGE AND REGISTER TODAY!



SEAALAS 2008

Awards Banquet and Meeting

NEW BEGINNINGS



Take a Chance on Something New!

January 23-25, 2008

*Marriott Savannah Riverfront
100 General McIntosh Blvd.
Savannah, GA 31401*

Lodging Registration:

Hotel Registration: Phone: 912-233-7722 or 800-285-0398 / Fax 912-233-3765

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Room Rates: **\$139.00** for Single or Double Occupancy

Full Name _____ Name on Badge _____
Position Title _____ Affiliation _____
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Registration Fees:

Please circle all that apply: **Before 1/15/2008** **After 1/15/2008**

Full Registration/person \$135 \$150
Haunted Pub Tour \$10

Includes:
Thursday- Morning break,
Lunch, Afternoon Break, and Banquet
at the Marriot Riverfront
Friday- Morning break

Thursday Only/ person \$100 \$120
Includes: Morning Break, Lunch,
Afternoon Break and Banquet.

Friday Only/person \$70 \$70
Includes: Morning Break

Banquet Only/person \$65 \$85 **Total Paid:** _____
Special dietary needs: Vegetarian Other _____

RSVP FOR A TOUR OF THE SAVANNAH MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ANIMAL AND RESEARCH FACILTIES

For non-members, please include an additional \$10.00 for 2008 membership dues and submit a completed Membership application.

Commercial Members: If you would like a table in the vendor area, please check here _____(Limit 25)

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For any additional inquiries: Please contact Robin Kavanaugh **Robink@uga.edu**

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The Autoclave or a "Close Call"

During the early 1960's I was working at a Specific Pathogen Free mouse facility in a Southern major Medical Center. I was basically learning handling techniques and the intricacies of mouse breeding from a group of experienced technicians. We were at a point where we had to move to a larger and new facility. The new facility was added on to the top of the building on the ninth floor with only two accessible entrances, one for males and one for females. It was to be a shower in and shower out facility.

Before we could move in, there was a lot of planning, construction, and preparation. When the large pass-through autoclave arrived at our loading dock things got tough. A large moving crane had to be summonsed in order to handle lifting the autoclave from the ground to the ninth floor wall opening and where it was to be put into place.

I was nervous as a cat on a hot tin roof the day the move took place. It was a spectacle to watch as the large autoclave was slowly lifted, hanging in mid-air high up above our heads and then lifted into place.

Installation of the ethylene-oxide/steam autoclave followed as performed by the representative of the manufacturer. The big day had come to use the ethylene-oxide large pass-through autoclave for the first time and the representative and I loaded a full load of materials and equipment. Together we examined all items that were put into the autoclave. Safety was our major concern. A list had been made of all items to be ethylene oxide sterilized.

The representative started the cycle and suddenly a big "ka-boom" was heard and the outside door bulged a little but held closed. We both hit the floor and tried to cover our heads. Trembling at the near loss of our lives we slowly got up and proceeded to call for help.

Realizing that all materials and equipment inside the autoclave was lost to a flash fire we examined our list and we figured out that a small bottle of Colloidin was the culprit. We did not realize that the solvent used for Colloidin was Acetone, and there was no indication marked on the bottle.

It goes to show you that you cannot be too careful when you are working with major equipment. Take your time and follow all the rules – your life may depend on it.

Anonymous

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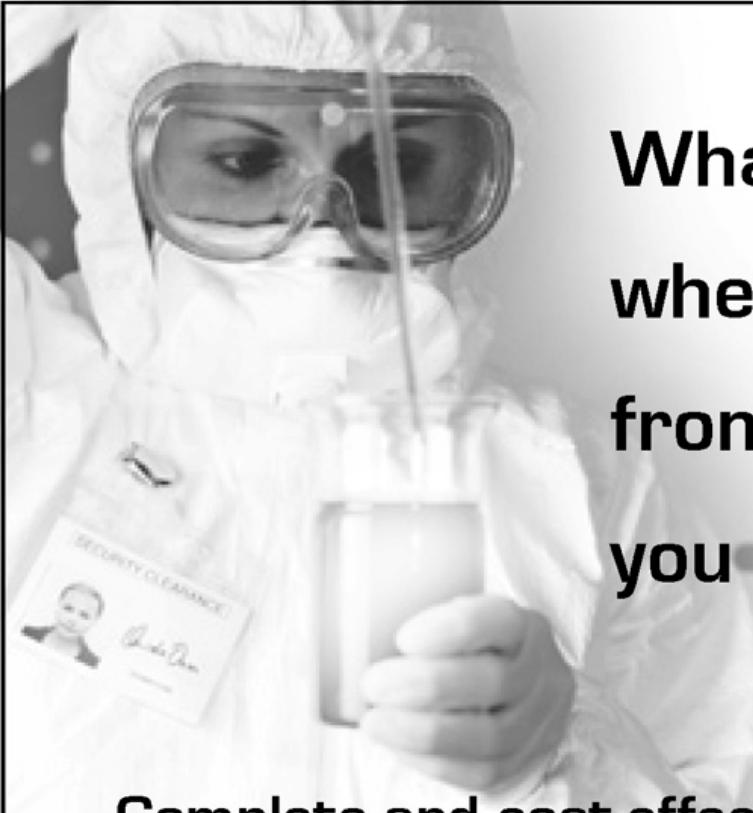
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SEAALAS 2007 Nominations/Elections

Hello Everyone,

This has been a great year and I want to thank everyone who sent in their ballots for this year's elections. We had a good response but there is always room for improvement. We each get a chance every year to elect our SEAALAS officers. I highly recommend voting in next year's election. This is a great way to have your voice heard. SEAALAS is our branch and we should all be involved with it. If you are not already involved, volunteer for something, we always need people!

I would also like to congratulate the new 2008 SEAALAS officers:

President-Elect: Mark Sharpless

Secretary: Kimberly Benjamin

Directors: Michael Hart

Michael O'Conner

I would like to extend a special thanks to everyone that nominated someone and also thanks to everyone who was nominated.

I have been asked to stay on as your Nominations/Elections Committee Chairman so I am looking forward to another great year. I can not wait to see all of you at the SEAALAS meeting in Savannah. Until then, Happy Holidays!

Lisa Wilson, RLATG

SEAALAS Nominations/Elections Committee Chair

University of Georgia

Pics Worth Sharing!



SEAALAS 2007 Awards Committee

Hello Everyone!

I would like to thank all those that nominated their hardworking and dedicated staff/coworkers for one of the prestigious SEAALAS Awards this year! We received many superb nominees for each of the 4 Awards. All of the nominations we received were once again exceptional in some way, and we will have a difficult time selecting a winner. Good Luck to you all!!

TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR – This award will consist of a plaque and a minimum of a \$500 honorarium to be presented to one SE/AALAS member each year for outstanding accomplishments in the field of animal care, research and/or technical education. Nominations should include a written description of accomplishments and letters of reference.

SALLY NEWEL PAPP MEMBER PARTICIPATION AWARD - This award will consist of a plaque and a minimum of a \$300 honorarium to be presented yearly to the SE/AALAS member deemed most active in the local, regional, and national organization. Nominations should include a written description of accomplishments and letters of reference.

PURINA PROLAB AWARD- This award will consist of a plaque and a \$300 honorarium to be presented each year to a technician whose primary responsibility is the husbandry (feeding, handling) of laboratory animals. Purina will donate an additional amount to the AALAS Foundation in the award recipient's name. Criteria for nomination are as follows:

- 1) Daily contact with animals of one or more species in the form of handling, feeding, watering, changing bedding, etc.
- 2) Demonstrates a positive attitude toward the welfare of animals.
- 3) Demonstrates outstanding performance in completing animal care related duties.
- 4) Demonstrates pursuit of knowledge in the field of animal care (i.e. any course work or formal training).
- 5) Innovative approaches to animal husbandry related problems should be cited.
- 6) All considerations being equal, candidates having current membership with the local AALAS Branch or National AALAS will be given priority.

NOTE: Supervisory responsibility and formal degrees are not important considerations for this award.

CLINTON S. SMITH SCHOLARSHIP AWARD - This scholarship provides the recipient with funds to support college study toward an associate, bachelors, masters, or doctorate degree related to a career in Animal Science. The scholarship may be awarded annually to a qualified applicant at a minimum funding level of \$500.00. Interest generated by this fund and SE/AALAS operating monies (if necessary) will provide the scholarship.

- (1) Applicants must submit a scholarship application and required documents. Qualification and evaluation criteria shall include, but not be limited to these factors:
Education and career objectives; Activity in SE/AALAS;
Proof of acceptance or enrollment in an approved institution; Education plan or program; and Academic achievement.
- (2) The recipient of the Scholarship should be present at the ceremony to receive the award, unless the Executive Committee approves absence.

Eva Nordine
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Athens Ga 30602
email: enordine@uga.edu

OR

Deidre Wright
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Charleston, SC 29425
email: wrightdr@musc.edu

Thanks,
Eva Nordine
Awards Committee.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

EU and US agree to closer cooperation on alternatives to animal testing

[Date: 2007-11-16]



The European Commission and the US Food and Drug Administration have agreed to intensify their collaboration in order to reduce animal testing at a meeting of the Transatlantic Economic Council (TEC).

The TEC was created in April 2007 in order to foster transatlantic economic integration. It deals with such issues as reducing regulatory barriers to trade, protecting intellectual property rights, ensuring secure trade, integrating financial markets, promoting innovation and technology and encouraging investment. The cosmetics sector is considered by the TEC to be a priority sector.

'The cosmetics industry needs a global regulatory environment that allows innovation, secures competitiveness, recognizes and supports efforts in the field of science and research and actively contributes to consumer confidence,' said Bertil Heerink, Director General of Colipa, the European cosmetics industry association.

At the November TEC meeting, a special focus was awarded to the development of alternatives to animal testing. Participants agreed on a need to intensify efforts internationally in order to ensure the effective validation and acceptance of alternative testing methods. In particular, the European Commission and the US Food and Drug Administration agreed to cooperate more closely in the peer review of validation studies of alternative methods to animal testing for cosmetics in order to contribute to a reduction in animal tests.

'The European cosmetics industry is firmly committed to the development of alternatives to animal testing, recognizes its ethical and legal obligations and considers effective implementation as a major business opportunity. In order to meet these obligations we need to develop alternative testing methods that are validated and accepted by scientists and authorities worldwide,' said Mr Heerink.

A new EU report on animal testing shows that the number of animals used in cosmetics testing increased by 50% between 2001 and 2005 to 5,571. This is in spite of an EU directive banning the use of animals for cosmetics testing with which all Member States must comply by 2009. Almost all of the cosmetics testing occurred in France.

The joint statement following the TEC meeting also noted progress on orphan drugs, biofuels, patients' access to information on pharmaceuticals, and trade in electrical products.

For further information, please see:

<http://www.eurunion.org/News/press/2007/20070112.htm>

<http://www.colipa.com>

**Leanne Alworth
SEAALAS Legislative Committee
ACLAM Government Regulatory Affairs Committee**

TECH TALK SPEAKERS NEEDED

TBR REPORT

This year has passed very quickly for me. I can not believe it is already the holiday season. This is a very busy time for everyone. I hope there are some technicians that planned ahead or are willing to add more to their plate by preparing for the Technician Tips session at the annual SEAALAS meeting January 24 -25, 2008. I will be hosting the session again this year and it can only be successful if we have speakers! Here are suggested guidelines for the presenters:

The topic should be applicable to animal care technicians.

The speaker should hold a technician or similar position, not upper management or veterinary level. Feel free to present as a team or group! They say there is safety in numbers!!

The presentation can be five to fifteen minutes long.

Visuals are encouraged.

A monetary prize is given each year for the SEAALAS Technician Topics Best Presentation Award. This will be presented at the annual banquet. A panel of judges will be selected. Each presentation is judged on:

Presentation Technique

Clarity of Presentation

Effective use of Visual Aids

Organization of Presentation

Originality/Creativity

Please contact me with your name and title of your presentation no later than January 1, 2008 to get in the official program. You can reach me:

pr@gwm.sc.edu

803-777-8106 office

803-777-2849 fax

Peg Rentz

University of South Carolina

Dept. Animal Resources

Graduate Science Research Center, Suite 102

631 Sumter St.

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District IV COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

TBR REPORT

District IV AALAS Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday, October 17, 2007 Charlotte, NC

In absence of Council Chair, Scott Bell, District IV Trustee, volunteered to Chair and called the meeting to order. Steve Blevins, District IV Alternate Trustee volunteered to act as Secretary.

1. Roll was taken and members were introduced. Those in attendance were:

Leann Alworth: SEAALAS, UGA
Steve Blevins: APPAALAS, ETSU, District IV Alternate Trustee
Scott Bell: MSAALAS, St. Jude, District IV Trustee
Faith Conkle: FAALAS, Mayo Clinic
Kevin Cormier: SEAALAS, PRL
Peg Hogan: RTB, Duke, District IV Trustee
Sharon Rand: MSAALAS, UMS
Mary Ann Vasbinber: RTB, GSK
Luis Zorrilla: FAALAS, UF

2. Approval of Minutes from Oct. 2006.

Motion was made by Steve Blevins to approve the minutes from the previous Council meeting held in Salt Lake City. Seconded by Mary Ann Vasbinder and approved unanimously.

Old Business: 2006 District IV Annual Meeting

3. Income/expense report from the 2006 District IV Annual Meeting.

Council members expressed concern regarding the significant loss incurred and are requesting a more detailed income and expense report be provided by Mid-South. As per the *District IV Council Procedures and Guidelines*, section XI/B, Distribution of Funds:

"Upon conclusion of the District IV Annual Meeting each year and following presentation of an itemized financial report to the Council, the calculated balance of the Council Treasury will be forwarded to the branch hosting the next year's Annual Meeting."

Council would like to see a more detailed (itemized) report to examine in greater detail the reason(s) for the loss in order to avoid a similar occurrence at future meetings.

Council suggested examples of desirable meeting reports should be attached to the Annual Meeting Planning Guide as a reference. Steve Blevins will amend the Guide with samples of these reports/spreadsheets.

Cont. on next page

District IV Council Meeting Minutes

4. Council Treasury funds remaining after the 2006 Annual Meeting.

Assuming accuracy of the income/expense report provided by Mid-South, the accounting of the loss and split of liability between Council and the host Branch is consistent with the Council Procedures Manual. As per the *AALAS District IV Council Procedures and Guidelines* manual, section VIII., TREASURER:

"In event of a meeting deficit determines the net loss from the Meeting and ensures sixty percent (60%) of the loss is absorbed by the District IV conference treasury and forty percent (40%) of the net loss is absorbed by the host Branch treasury and all remaining conference treasury funds are forwarded to the next host Branch."

\$6,736.13 in Council funds was received from SEAALAS. The net loss for the 2006 meeting was reported as being \$5,494.93. As per Council Treasury Procedures:

$\$5,494.93 \times .40 = \$2,197.97$ loss to be absorbed by Mid-South
 $\$5,494.93 \times .60 = \$3,296.96$ loss to be absorbed by Council

6,736.13 – 3,296.96 = \$3,439.17 to be forwarded to FAALAS

5. Improving Communication and Council Leadership Transition

There was considerable discussion regarding the need for improved communication between the Council Chair and other Branch Presidents who in fact are the body of the District IV Council. The fact there was no 2007 D-IV meeting complicated the Council leadership transition process. One likely underlying issue is that incoming Branch Presidents are not even aware they are a Council member and of the accompanying responsibilities, especially if their Branch is upcoming host of the annual meeting. A concerted effort is incumbent upon each Branch in District IV to inform their new Presidents of not only their Branch duties but those to the District as well. Steve Blevins commented to Council that the Appalachian Branch has job descriptions for each officer and the Council duties are delineated in the President's job description. Appalachian is willing to share those job descriptions with any Branch.

Council requested that the *District IV Annual Meeting Planning Guide* and *AALAS District IV Council Procedures and Guidelines* manual be sent to all current Presidents in District IV. Steve acquired their contact information from those attending and will forward these documents with notation to please forward to their incoming 2008 President.

Council leadership should remember to notify the Allied Trades Representative to Council of all Council meetings and include the rep on all Council correspondence. The rep is currently Lynn Freese (Purina).

6. Future District IV Annual Meetings

2008- FAALAS, March 12-14 in Melbourne, Florida

Luis Zorrilla, FAALAS President, provided a preliminary program which was also distributed at the D-IV breakout session on Monday. In addition, a preliminary budget spreadsheet was provided. Luis reported that local arrangements were in place and the program was coming along well and still has a few slots to fill.

Cont. on next page

District IV Council Meeting Minutes

Council commended Luis on the preliminary budget spreadsheet as an excellent example of how to plan and to have a template for the final income/expense report.

Council reminded all that this is a District, not just a Branch meeting and all Branches should participate in the program so as not to place the entire burden of the program upon the host Branch. Conversely, the host Branch must make an effort to solicit presenters through various means such as the Branch newsletters.

2009 – Research Triangle Branch

Mary Ann Vasbinder reported that RTB will begin planning in earnest as soon as they recover from hosting the national meeting.

2010 – Appalachian Branch – Moved to 2011

Steve Blevins reported that their Board has some concerns and is hesitant to commit to this meeting. Despite a nice venue and excellent program, the 2004 meeting was not well attended. Appalachian was scrambling to cut costs with the hotel and still realized a \$2K loss. There was no definitive reason for the low attendance other than possibly the fact that the national meeting was to be in D-IV (Tampa) later that year and people were saving funds to send techs to that meeting. Of additional concern is the Allied Trades Association (ATA) ongoing discussion of establishing a rating of local and regional meetings on a points basis and whether they will “endorse” meetings based upon the perceived “return on investment (ROI)”. Should Appalachian sign contracts with the hotel and ATA not endorse the meeting, their Branch could be bankrupted.

Discussion ensued and Council suggested that there not be a District meeting in 2010 because the national is in Atlanta that year. This continues the precedent of not having a D-IV meeting this year with the national in Charlotte. This would encourage sending more techs to the national by establishing an ongoing policy of not having the District meeting when national is held in the District. It is believed the ATA will be pleased with this scenario as well.

Council will monitor the ATA development of a points based meeting endorsement system and its potential impact on District meetings at smaller venues.

Appalachian Branch leadership will need to commit no later than at the 2009 spring Council meeting at RTB if they will host the District meeting in 2011.

2011 – Appalachian Branch

2012 – SEAALAS

2013 – Mid-South

7. Having no other business the meeting was adjourned.

**Peg Rentz
SEAALAS TBR
University of South Carolina**

SEAALAS Board Meeting Summary

Executive Director News, October 2007 Minutes:

The Executive Committee met in Charlotte during the AALAS Annual Meeting. We were able to discuss many issues during our 2 hour meeting. I do not have the minutes to publish for this newsletter but here is a brief summary of the meeting:

The minutes from the previous meeting and the treasury report were approved. The financial status of SEAALAS is sound. The next item on the agenda was committee reports. The Awards Committee submitted the slate of nominees for all awards and all candidates were approved. There was discussion about Board members winning awards. Some thought it was inappropriate for current board members to win awards, but the final consensus was that all SEAALAS members are eligible for awards and it would not be fair to the person doing the nomination to disallow their nomination to be considered. The Communication Committee report included that the newsletter looks great and has gone out on time. TBR reported that they still need speakers for the Tech Tip session in January. Contact Peg Rentz with names and titles.

New Business:

Membership information was discussed. We plan to include a line item on the membership renewal form and application to ask members if they want to receive their newsletter electronically or via paper. Some thought that some members would still prefer to get a paper copy mailed to them because they do not have access to computers that can print out the newsletter. The renewal notices for all institutions will be sent to one person so that we can be sure to get all renewal forms back. This has been a problem in the past because institutions do not gather all forms to return, but have been just sending a list. It is very important for me to get the actual renewal form back so I can verify all contact information is correct.

The Newsletter Editor position was discussed. We had contacted other branches to see what others did for compensation for doing the newsletter. Many considered it a volunteer position, but then some did offer compensation. We decided to award an honorarium of \$400 if all criteria of the SOP are met annually. This will be presented at the annual awards banquet.

The Award SOP was reviewed and we will include some additional items in it. The key points were to include updating the forms for nominations on the web site at the beginning of each year so membership knows who the Committee Chair is. Nominations will now be sent only to the Committee Chair via the permanent SEAALS mailing address, or via the email: awards@seaalas.org. The method for selecting committee members was discussed. The Chair will be appointed at the beginning of the year, but they will not select other committee members until all nominations have been received. Once nominations have been received, the Chair will appoint members that are not affiliated with any nominees.

The Chair will black out all nominee names and addresses on the packets to make the selection more anonymous.

We are still in the process of revising the BY-Laws. All Board members have been given a section of the By-Laws and a committee SOP to review and make changes on. We will collect these in December and hopefully have a revised version to look at during the January Meeting.

Plans for the January meeting included recognition of outgoing Board and Committee Chairs, recognizing members that have obtained certifications, and the need to have group pictures taken for the website and newsletter. We still need Tech Talks so please get your technicians involved and send names to Peg at pr@gwm.usc.edu !

Submitted by: Robin Kavanaugh

SEAALAS Executive Director

University of Georgia

2008 District IV Annual Meeting in Melbourne, Florida Crowne Plaza Melbourne

2008 District IV - AALAS Meeting

March 12th, 13th and 14th

"Development of Animal Programs and Facilities"

(Preliminary Program Hosted by FAALAS, Melbourne, FL)

Wednesday, March 12th

- 12:00 - 5:00 Registration
11:00 - 5:00 Animal Facility Tour and/or Golf Tournament (visit, www.florida-aalas.org, for more information)
6:30 - 8:00 Welcome Reception in Vendor's Area

Thursday, March 13th

- 7:00 - 8:00 Breakfast - Registration
8:10 - 8:20 Introduction
8:25 - 9:10 **Keynote Speaker - Dr. Battles - University of Florida**
9:15 - 9:45 Dr. Battles - University of Florida - TBD
9:45 - 10:00 Breakout Session

Track 1

- 10:00 - 10:30 Dr. Wagner - Mannheimer Institute - TBD
10:35 - 11:05 Dr. Ramirez - University of Florida - Enrichment for Singly Housed Rodents
11:10 - 11:40 Dr. Norman Guilloud - Univ. Central Florida - TBD
11:45 - 12:00 Shannon Sunday - University of Florida - Documentation in the Vet Tech World at UF
12:00 - 1:00 Lunch
1:00 - 3:00 Dedicated Exhibit Time
3:05 - 3:35 Dr. Bobby Collins - VCU - Chinese Cynomolgus Monkey - TB Positive or Not?
3:40 - 4:10 Dr. Morales - Mannheimer Institute - TBD
4:15 - 4:45 Timothy Barnet - Bionetics - Specimen Plastination
4:45 - 5:00 Day's Final Annoucements
6:00 - 9:00 Dinner and Technician Awards Ceremony

Track 2

- Bob Banks - University of Central Florida - Growth of UCF
Barb Locke - University of Florida - Adoption, is it Possible?
Faith Conkle - Mayo Clinic - CRB
Danny Jonson - University of Florida - TBR: The What and The Why
Julie Honeycut - Helico Stix
Paul Lorcheim - ClorDiSys - Facility Decontamination
Ramona Bober - NASA - TBD

Friday, March 14th

- 7:00 - 8:00 Breakfast
8:10 - 8:40 Todd Myer - Research and Surviving Cancer: A True Story
8:45 - 9:15 Julie Honeycut - Florida Atlantic University - Public Outreach Programs
9:15 - 9:30 Break
9:35 - 10:05 Mike Riley - University of Florida - HSC and BMS Building Renovations
10:10 - 10:40 Peg Hogan - Duke University - New Constructions: Lessons Learned
10:45 - 11:15 Scott Bell - St. Jude Children's Hospital - District IV and You
11:20 - 11:30 Summary and Final Announcements
11:30 - 1:30 District IV Coucil Meeting

Crowne Plaza Melbourne

www.cpmelborne.com

2008 District IV Annual Meeting Registration Page



GENERAL REGISTRATION District IV – AALAS ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 12 – 14, 2008 MELBOURNE, FLORIDA

Name: _____ Title: _____
Organization: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____ Guest NAME: _____

	Check Box(es)!	Before Feb. 13	After Feb. 13
Full Conference Registration*		\$160.00	\$210.00
Thursday only (includes breakfast, lunch and dinner)		\$110.00	\$140.00
Friday only (includes breakfast)		\$30.00	\$50.00
Guest (Dinner Only)		\$45.00	\$50.00
Guest (Dinner & Welcome Reception)		\$70.00	\$80.00

Total Enclosed: _____

* Registration Fees – includes all meal functions – Wednesday evening Welcome Reception with cash bar, Breakfast x 2, Lunch, and Thursday's night dinner.

Credit card payment will be available on the FAALAS website November 15. Please visit our website for more information (www.florida-aalas.org).

Make check or money order payable to FAALAS and mail with registration form to:

Sandi Manetta, Treasurer
c/o Office of Student Affairs
USF HSC MDC 0004
12901 Bruce B. Downs Blvd.
Tampa FL 33612

The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Melbourne, Florida. Room rates are \$139.00 or \$149.00 (partial ocean view) per night. To reserve rooms at this rate, call **321-777-4100** before the deadline of February 13, 2008. Be sure to mention "FAALAS – District IV" when making reservations to ensure you get the special rate!



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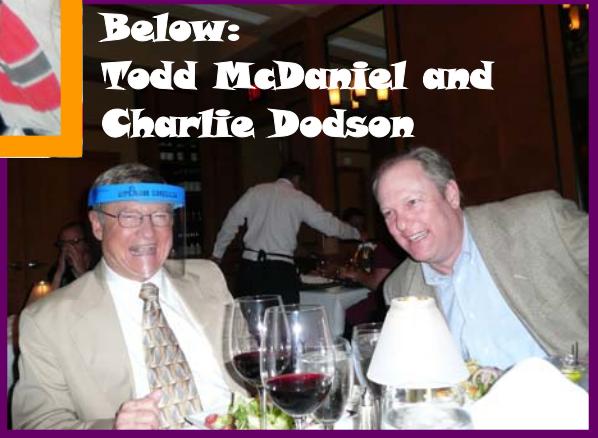
Charles River 60's Party



Above:
Rachel Dornbusch, Eva Nordine, Nicole Snell, Robin Kavanaugh, Kristine Wilcox, Lisa Wilson, and Amy Phillips

Above:
Amy Phillips and Robin Kavanaugh with Austin and Go-Go Dancers

Below:
Todd McDaniel and Charlie Dodson





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MEET THE TECH

By Deidre Wright RLAT



20 questions With Deidre

MEET... **JESSICA MC LAUGHLIN!**

1. Where do area in the South East do you live?
- Statesbourg, GA
2. Where were you born?
- Savannah, GA
3. Where do you work?
- Memorial Health University Medical Center
4. How long have you been a member of SEAALAS?
- 1 Year
5. What was your current job?
- Animal Care and Use Coordinator
6. What is the most rewarding aspect of your current job ?
- Starting a new facility.
7. Do you have any pets?
- Irish Setters Ruby and Rusty, Sampson The Dotson, Fat Kitty the six toed cat, Asshole Steve the Hedgehog.
8. What is your idea of a perfect vacation?
- I would love to spend a month in Australia. I would also love to dive with great white sharks.

9. What is the one thing that you must have in your Refrigerator?
- Sweet Tea

10. Something that you tried once but will never try again?
- Sushi

11. Who is the person that you admire most?
- My husband, Thomas.

12. What was your first job?
- A tea girl at Vendees BBQ.

13. What is your Favorite Television Show?
- Heroes

14. One item that you can not live with out?
- Q-tips

15. Favorite way to unwind?
- Lay on the couch with my dogs and watch TV.

16. If you were a food what would you be?
- Cake

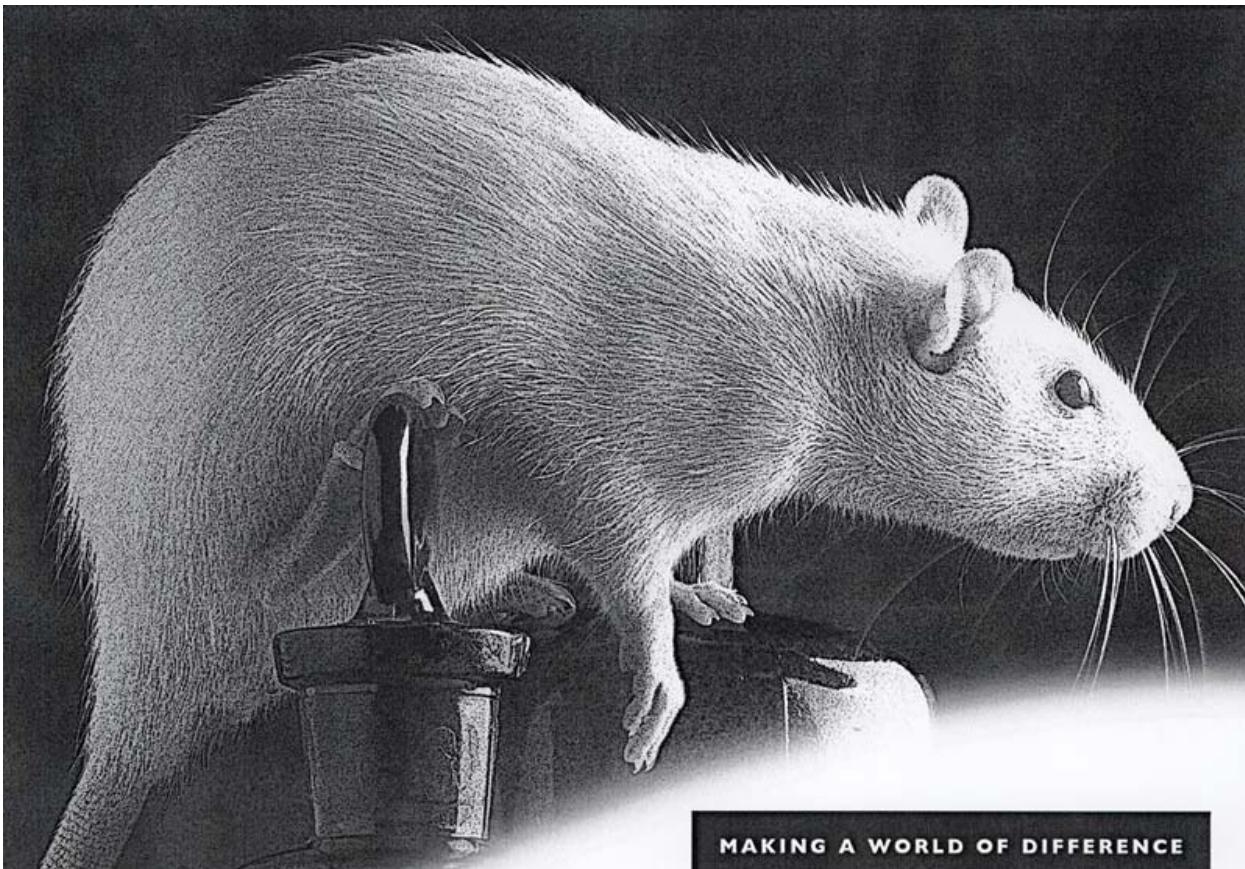
17. If you had a free day what would you do?
- Sleep

18. What is your favorite drink?
- Beer

19. Name your Worst Habit?
- I bite my nails.

20. Words of Advice?
- Don't take things too seriously.





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SEAALAS BRANCH CALENDAR 2007

APRIL

1-- Deadline for Branch Membership renewals
at discount rates and inclusion in Directory
30 --Branch Membership Directory published

MAY

1 --Deadline to submit 2007 Membership Roster to
AALAS
1-- Deadline for National AALAS awards
nominations
13—Mothers Day
15-- Submission deadline, June Newsletter
17-- July Contemporary Topics deadline
28—Memorial Day

JUNE

1--June Newsletter published
1--Call for Officer and BOD Nominations
20-21 LAMA-ATA Annual Meeting- Puerto Rico
www.lama-online.org
30- Letter to solicit Award Nominations goes out

JULY

1—Independence Day
19 -- September Contemporary Topics deadline

AUGUST

1--Deadline for Officer and BOD Nominations
15-- Submission deadline, September Newsletter
15--Branch Election Ballots mailed

SEPTEMBER

1--September Newsletter published
3—Labor Day
18- November Contemporary Topics deadline
30--Election Deadline

OCTOBER

1--Deadline for 2007 Branch Award Nominations and
Scholarship Applications
15--Election Results tabulated
14-18 AALAS Annual Meeting, Charlotte, NC

NOVEMBER

6 --National Election Day
11 – Veterans Day
15 -- Submission deadline, December Newsletter
22 – Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

1--December Newsletter published
1--New Officers announced
15--Membership renewal letters sent
25 -- Christmas

Institutional News



Discovering... Understanding... Healing...

Hello SEAALAS Members!

We have new faces to welcome to the gang here at the Medical University of South Carolina, Department of Comparative Medicine. Dr. Kris Helke accepted the role as the Departments pathologist. Helke is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Veterinary School. She has recently completed both her veterinary anatomic pathology training and her PhD in Pathobiology at Johns Hopkins University. Her thesis research consisted of looking at molecular mechanisms of viral-medicated neurodegeneration. Chao Sun is a new face to add to the group at the Children's Research Institute (CRI).

We also bid farewell to Rebecca Taylor who has decided to be a stay at home mom with Baby Grady. We wish them the best of luck. Congratulations to the following DLAR staff that passed the extensive ABSL3 training program: Amanda King, Cheryl Mazell, Donna Owens and Deidre Wright. We are patiently awaiting the facility to open in the near future.

We would like to congratulate Carlos Herrera for being promoted from an Agricultural Animal Assistant II to an Agricultural Animal Associate I position.

The following Technicians have been awarded the Tech of the Month for a job well done:

August- Cheryl Mazell

September- Jennifer Munoz

October- Tina Carden

Keep up the good work guys!!

From everyone here at the Medical University of South Carolina we wish you all a safe and Happy Holiday Season.

Submitted by: Deidre Wright, RLAT

Institutional News



**Georgia Institute
of Technology**

Physiological Research Lab

Parker H. Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience

Hello everyone in the land of SEAALAS. Things continue to run smoothly here at Georgia Tech. We have a small facility so space is always an issue but isn't that considered job enrichment. Since the last newsletter, a few things have happened with our small group.

- * Back in October, Andrea Gibson and I attended the national AALAS meeting where she accepted her Lab Products Award. The meeting was really great and the Lab Products reception was fantastic. I was nursing some stomach bug but I know Andrea and others from SEAALAS were tearing up the dance floor that night. I think there should be a dance off between Dean and Robin. At the meeting, Andrea got her first big taste the Lab Animal Research world and she returned with a better appreciation of what we do. I think that is very cool! We enjoyed seeing everyone from SEAALAS and hope to do it again next year.
- * John Duncan passed the LAT exam earlier this month. John is one of my Laboratory Technicians and has been employed here since May. Congratulations to John! One down and two to go.
- * Over the past few months we have acquired two species of reptiles. Georgia Tech had never had reptiles before and so this was quite a challenge. We had to set up a room, get proper cages, bedding, enrichment, lighting, and food. They have taken up a lot of our time but it has been rewarding. They seem to love their new homes and they are really fun to watch. Some of the females laid eggs after arriving so we are watching to see if we get any babies in the next month. We will keep you all updated on the baby watch.

That is all for now! The holidays are fast approaching so I hope everyone has a great time with friends and family. See you all in Savannah!!!!

**Submitted by Kim Benjamin
B.A., RLATG**



Andrea Gibson



Zebra Tailed Lizard



John Duncan

Institutional News



Emory University Division of Animal Resources-DAR, Atlanta Ga

Hello from “dry” Atlanta. Hope you all are doing well and getting ready for the holidays.

We are working to develop policies and strategies to conserve water consumption within our facilities, in accordance with University directives. We have looked at our cage washing equipment and determined that turning off the washers when not being used, (break and lunch times) will save hundreds of gallons of water. We have five cage washing areas. We are looking at other ways in which to do our part for the environment and our citizens. Suggestions on how to save water and energy in animal facilities would be an interesting topic for SEAALAS and AALAS meetings in the future.

We congratulate Mike Hatchet, Koya Alford, Selma Yarney and Shemsu Nuri on passing their ALAT certification exam. Hanson Acheampong will take his ALAT by the end of November. We are going to start a second ALAT Study Course and an LAT Study Course in January. I expect about eight students in each section.

We welcome some new members to our animal care staff: Claude Pitt, Animal Care Tech. II, Sierra Stallworth, Animal Care Tech. I, Ben Elliott, Animal Care Tech. II, Anna Williams, Animal Care Tech. I, and Trampas Thomas, Animal Care Trainee.

Submitted by Nancy L. Miller

Institutional News



Hello from Clemson University:

After extensive searches and interviews, we are very pleased to announce that we have added a much needed technician to our animal care staff. Deana McAnulty spent over five years working in private veterinary practice before deciding that she is ready for a new challenge in the laboratory animal field. We feel fortunate that she has joined our team and hope that you will all get a chance to welcome her to the SEAALAS family soon.



We are looking forward to the SEAALAS Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet in Savannah. It should be a fun and interesting meeting. Hope to see everyone there.

Until then, have a wonderful and safe holiday season.
Happy Holidays!

Submitted by Melody Willey

Institutional News



The University of Georgia



University of Georgia Vet Med Animals Resources

We would like to congratulate Susan Russum (August 21st) and Missy Waters (October 27) for their 20 years service. You could never tell by me that they have worked here this long.

Thanks to the Farm Crew (Jeff Tucker, Logan Gabriel, Kara Nitschke and Zach Harlan) for the delicious Thanksgiving Pig Roast. I can't believe you can get something that good without paying an arm and a leg. You should market that stuff!!

With classes starting up again, I would like to welcome the following people to Vet Med AR; Selicia Lemmo, Katherine Lythgoe, Clara Moran, Zach Harlan, Janice Watkins and Daniel Mosseri. These guys and gals are our new students working with the animals while Kimberly Dobbins and Josh Garner keep us straight in the office.

I would also like to congratulate UGA for getting the Animal Health Research Center turned over to them. One step closer to getting the whole building open. We will be getting animals in Phase II by January 2008.

Vet Med also had some people enjoying the "Good Times" at the National AALAS meeting held in Charlotte, NC this year. Everyone had a great time and came back with lots of information and goodies.

I would like to thank all those that nominated their hardworking staff/coworkers for the different awards this year. We received some topnotch candidates. Good Luck to you all!!

Submitted by Eva Nordine



Vet Med AR Staff



Missy Waters



Susan Russum

Institutional News



Hello SEAALAS!

As some of you may know, I have spent the last year working toward opening a small rodent barrier facility at Memorial Health in Savannah Georgia.

It goes without saying that this has been a terrifically difficult task, but things are finally starting to come together. It's been a slow process, especially since I am new to the field. I spend a lot of time educating myself on the ins and outs of the lab animal world, and have recently taken my ALAT test. I am always working on SOPs (of course), and most recently have begun to work on our PI/technician training program. I stay busy dealing with the small "disasters" that seem to pop up from time to time, and as soon as one problem is resolved, five more seem to take its place.

We are currently unoccupied, as far as animals go. We had a small colony of sentinel animals that were maintained for a short time as a trial run to make sure that our equipment worked properly and that my husbandry skills were adequate. These animals were sent off for testing in September and came back clean, so we are technically ready to house experimental animals. We currently have two IACUC approved protocols, and I hope to have our very first test animals at the end of January.

I have also been working hard to make sure that everyone thoroughly enjoys themselves at our upcoming annual meeting. Kristin Garner and I are planning lots of fun activities for everyone, including a Haunted Pub Crawl. We are really excited about the theme this year, and hope to see lots of you guys there, so make sure that you send in your registration as soon as possible!

Finally, in closing I would like to thank everyone in the SEAALAS community for all of your help and support. I cannot say enough about how much I appreciate everything you guys have taught me!

I wish you all wonderful holidays, and I'll see you in January!

- Jessica McLaughlin

Institutional News



The University of Georgia

Hi everyone!

Currently we are cutting back on our water everywhere. Having no rain for awhile has put Athens on a water ban. We have cut back on extra washing, rinses in the washers, hosing down only when needed. Even watching our laundry loads and how much we do. We do hope for rain soon but for the time being we are trying to do everything we can to cut back and still keep our standards of animal care.

Our AAALAC inspection on Sept. 23 went very well. Everyone was wonderful in getting ready and being there to answer questions. Thank you to everyone in making the facilities look great once again!

We sent a large group to Charlotte for National AALAS. Amy, Kristine, Liz, Robin, Todd, Chris, Nicole, Rachel, Leanne and Lisa all went to the AAALS National Meeting. It was the first National Meeting for Nicole, Rachel, and Lisa. Lisa went to a few seminars pertaining to sentinel programs, since we are currently in the process of revamping the quality assurance program. Everything they went to was very informative and everyone learned a lot.

There were, of course, after hour socials also. Charles River Labs gave a great 60's party where the gals dressed in 60's attire and looked great. Total MRO had a great party the same night. The following night was the Tecniplast Reception and Lab Products party.

Several of them went to The Bodies World Exhibit at Discovery Place in downtown Charlotte. It was said that it was the most profound and enlightening thing they had ever had the privilege to experience. If it comes back to Atlanta it is highly recommend that everyone go see it.

Welcome back to Allison Liljedahl who was hired to be a lead tech in Manley's room at CRV. Congratulations to Kristine Wilcox in passing her LATG exam. We know you worked hard for it. Congratulations to Lenika Jackson on her new baby boy. Payton Timothy Jackson was born October 28th, and weighed in at 3lbs. 14oz and was 15 inches long. . He went home on Nov. 15 at 5lbs. He is doing well. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Our IACUC site visit went well and was on Halloween- how bizarre. All the facilities looked wonderful. Again everyone was great in making sure that daily and weekly things are done to insure proper care of our animals. Thanks to everyone! You make a difference in every way for the animals and the PI's research.

Submitted by Terri McCurley

Institutional News



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Hello Everyone!

We've been dry with drought and busy preparing for AAALAC here at the Atlanta VA Medical Center. During our last semi-annual IACUC we determined that most of our floors within our facility needed to be re-painted and it has been a great deal of work coordinating and moving everything. We are looking forward to their completion on December 2nd !!

Dr. Fallon took our staff out to lunch in November in appreciation of our facility's outstanding inspection by the VA hospital director. We really enjoyed our luncheon as it isn't often we are all able to dine together at the same time. Thank you Dr. Fallon!

Congratulations are in order for Karriem Moultrie and Tyrone Woods (our cage wash technicians) for completing their ALAT training course offered through Emory. They are now planning to take the ALAT exam soon, we wish them our best in their pursuit of laboratory animal certification! Congratulations Jim Mcneill (our facility supervisor) for fulfilling the educational requirements for participation in the AALAS Technician certification Registry — exemplifying dedication and professionalism in laboratory animal care!



Dr. Fallon, Karriem, Larry, Allen, Lisa, Sandy and Tyrone

We are all looking forward to SEAALAS in Savannah in January! The 2008 program planning committee has been working hard and has done a great job, the theme and topics are very exciting with a twist of fun! As SEAALAS newsletter Editor, I look forward to seeing everyone again and thanking everyone in person for submitting news for the newsletter in 2007. The position as Editor has been very time challenging, a great deal of time and energy goes into every issue. I now have a true appreciation for all the SEAALAS newsletter Editors that came before me. I will be in Savannah (like Lois Lane) with my camera in hand, so strike your best pose and plan on making the news in 2008! See you soon!

Submitted by Sandy Williams RVT, LATG

Atlanta VA Medical Center

Institutional News

South Carolina

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Hello All

We were able to send several of our animal care staff to the National AALAS meeting in Charlotte, N.C. The technicians had their first experience seeing the tremendous trade show. They collected the vendor give-aways to share with the dedicated technicians that had to stay behind and hold down the fort! (Now I have no idea what I can give them during Technicians week!) They were treated to lunch by Kevin Cormier with Pharmacal. I think they really enjoyed the experience.

Charlotte Joyner volunteered for the Animal Research and Education Awareness (AREA) Teachers program at the AALAS meeting. This is a program designed to teach young (middle/high school) students and their teachers about the use of animals for research. She had three young men that she escorted around the vendor area. She was delighted with their enthusiasm.

I attended the TBR meeting. I have some new ideas I will share with the branch at our annual meeting in Savannah. I hope to see you there!

Submitted by Peg Rentz

Institutional News

Specialty Operations solutions

Specialty Operations Solutions welcomes Joel Sarmiento to its metro Atlanta group. SOS President, Kurt Last said. "We are sure our clients will be pleased with the newest addition to the Specialty Operations Solutions staff."

Submitted by John Duktig

Yerkes Primate Center

The Yerkes Field Station hosted an Open House on October 13, and more than 80 neighbors attended.

The Yerkes Field Station will celebrate Laboratory Animal Technician Week January 27-February 2. The theme for this year is " Laboratory Animal Technicians... Heroes Behind the Science."

Several members of the vet staff attended 58th national American Association for Laboratory Animal Science, including veterinarians: Joyce Cohen, Joe Jenkins, Fawn Stroud, Jim Else and Karen Strait, who also presented a poster presentation. Veterinarian residents Lynn Collura and Christin Veeder presented as well. Technicians Elizabeth Marshall, Denise Bonenberger, Stacey Weissman and Trina Villareal also attended.

Kudos to our recently certified staff members:

ALAT

Joe Fukijawa
Bekele Kerga
Gerard Ntihinyuka
Christie Sheffield
Kitaw Shiferaw
Wendy Williamson-Cohen

LAT

Stacey Weissman
Trina Villarreal
Carmen Nash

LATG

Denise Bonenberger
Ruth Connelly

Submitted by Lisa Newbern

Institutional News



Well here at Georgia State we have certainly been busy. We're ramping up to renovate our biggest facility to the daunting task of finding temporary housing in our other facilities is being handled with minimal problems.

We'd like to welcome Sherry Freeman ALAT and Jesse Britt on board as Lab Animal Technicians I. Congratulations are in order for Sarah Hunsberger who passed her ALAT exam. Sadly, we'd like to say good bye, congratulations, and good luck to our student worker Alexis Flournoy who found a job working for Cryolife; we'll miss her deft hands in the Zebra Finch room.

Plans are being finalized for our newest facility in the research park, which is slated to open in 2011. That's it for now!

Thanks!
Matt Davis



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Employment Opportunities

Yerkes National Primate Research Center

The Yerkes National Primate Research Center has several Animal Care positions open at the Yerkes Field Station in Lawrenceville, Georgia. For more information about working at Yerkes, please visit www.yerkes.emory.edu and select the Employment link.

The Yerkes National Primate Research Center of Emory University is an international leader in biomedical and behavioral research. Research conducted at the center involving nonhuman primates provides a critical link between research with small laboratory animals and clinical trials with humans. The center houses nearly 3,400 nonhuman primates and more than 7,000 rodents between two locations at its main center on Emory's Atlanta campus and its field station in Lawrenceville, Georgia.



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Position Description:

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Responsible for the care of specialized animal colonies. Prepares and maintains records on health care, death and necropsy reports, animal breeding histories, use and disposal, etc. on animal colonies.

- * Maintain facilities (environment) daily in animal rooms; checks to ensure that proper feed, watering and bedding changes are performed as scheduled. Ensure that room temperatures are adequate for optimal animal health.
- * Care for animals on BSL2/3 projects following all CDC, OSHA and NIH specific guidelines for biohazards.
- * Care for gnotobiotic (germ free) animals maintained in sterile isolator chambers.
- * Care for animals in ventilated rack conditions. Maintain ventilated racks and sterile hood/dumping stations.
- * Train and instruct technicians from other departments in animal restraint and routine procedures such as blood-drawing and drug administration and in the use of departmental equipment.
- * Assist the veterinary and medical research staff in the performance of animal surgical procedures and autopsies; collects serum and tissue samples.
- * Consult and advise departmental faculty and researchers on health status of animal colonies, informing researchers and veterinarians when signs of disease are apparent. Discusses research protocols with researchers and oversees protocol requirements.

For more information go to <http://www.musc.edu/hrm/careers/staff.htm>



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Alzheimer's in Cats

Paw Prints: Studies reveal that cats can develop Alzheimer's, too. According to scientists at the University of Edinburgh, St. Andrews, Bristol and California, a new study reveals that aging cats can develop feline Alzheimer's disease. Mental deterioration can be caused by a protein that builds up in a cat's nerve cells in the brain. With human Alzheimer's disease, this protein generates "tangles" in the nerve cells that prevent the brain from being able to process messages. Scientists say this protein, present in cats, is evidence that they can develop this type of disease as well.



To read the rest of the story, go to http://www.tribstar.com/valley_life/local_story_314222505.html

Tech Tips

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We use Harlan 19% protein extruded rodent diet, number 2019S because the large slightly soft pellets hold water like a sponge. We place a full room temperature rodent water bottle into the microwave for about 30 seconds or until it is warm and not hot to the touch. Then we drop 6-8 (depending on the number of rodents in the cage) pellets of the Harlan diet into the warmed bottle, shake it and let it soak for 5 minutes. Once the food has expanded with the warmed water we dump the remaining water out and place the food into the bottom of the cage. The aroma the warmed and soaked pellets put out encourages the rodents to eat, additionally the water expanded food requires little effort to eat. We use this technique on weanlings and post-op rodents.



Submitted by: Sandy Williams RVT, LATG
Atlanta VA Medical Center

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Animal-Rights Extremist

Tuesday, October 30, 2007

Animal-Rights Militants Vandalize UCLA Researcher's House

By JJ HERMES

A house owned by a researcher at the University of California at Los Angeles was vandalized last week by the Animal Liberation Front, in yet another militant act against a UCLA faculty member who performs research on primates and other animals. The group, which is known as the ALF, claimed responsibility for breaking a window at the house on October 20 and inserting a garden hose with the water turned on. A UCLA spokesman confirmed that account. The animal-rights group also claimed to have intentionally clogged the drain of a swimming pool pump at the residence. The house is owned by Edythe D. London, a professor of psychiatry and behavioral studies and director of UCLA's Laboratory of Molecular Neuroimaging. The ALF said it had singled her out because of her research on nicotine and methamphetamines involving primates.

Campaign of Violence

The Animal Liberation Front, which the Federal Bureau of Investigation considers a terrorist organization (The Chronicle, August 5, 2005), has recently focused violent action against UCLA researchers in an effort to halt experimentation on animals. In June a UCLA scientist found a makeshift bomb under his car at his home. The device failed to detonate because of a faulty fuse (The Chronicle, June 29). A year earlier, another UCLA scientist's home was the target of a Molotov cocktail, but it failed to ignite and had actually been placed outside the wrong house (The Chronicle, July 14, 2006). An investigation by the FBI into both incidents continues.

Gene D. Block, the university's chancellor, issued a statement on Monday that condemned the vandalism, which he said "resulted in tens of thousands of dollars in damage."

The statement added: "At UCLA we are determined to expose and seek prosecution of extremists intent on harming people who have devoted their careers to conducting research that ultimately enhances or even saves lives."

"Such tactics are beyond contemptible, have no place in a civilized society, and are completely unacceptable methods to achieve a political or policy goal," said Mr. Block.

Attempted Intimidation

Phil Hampton, a spokesman for the university, said there had been several other incidents of vandalism directed at the homes of UCLA researchers, including rocks thrown through windows. Animal-rights activists with a group called the UCLA Primate Freedom Project, which is unaffiliated with the ALF, have also conducted late-night demonstrations in front of the homes of researchers.

Mr. Hampton said the university was taking steps to ensure the safety of its researchers and students, but the violence directed at faculty members also seems to have had a negative effect on the public disclosure of research.

Last month, while the University of California's Board of Regents considered a proposed ban on accepting tobacco-industry money for research, the San Francisco Chronicle reported on a study supported with a \$6-million grant from Philip Morris, the tobacco company, in which Ms. London was the principal investigator. When an advocacy group requested copies of the grant proposal as a public record, the document that the university publicly released was heavily censored in part, UCLA officials said, because information about animal studies might lead to harassment of the researchers.

Mr. Hampton said the disclosure had had a negative impact nonetheless. "It's unfortunate that information that is provided in response to open-records requests is being used to identify targets for demonstrations and attempted intimidation," he said. 'People Want to Do Something'

When asked why UCLA had been primarily singled out for violence by animal-rights extremists, a press officer for the North American Animal Liberation Press Office, which relays "communiqués" from the underground group but is not officially related to the organization, attributed the pattern to several things. He said it stemmed from a campaign a few years ago that used Freedom of Information Act requests to make public much of UCLA's research on laboratory animals, the news-media saturation in Los Angeles, and the presence of activists in the area who are willing to commit acts of violence.

"There is so much public information out there," said the press officer, Jerry W. Vlasak. "It makes people want to do something." Mr. Vlasak also said that heavy-handed tactics by UCLA's campus police force against animal-rights demonstrations, which have resulted in the detention and cataloging of nonviolent activists, have contributed to the attacks.

The communiqué about the attack against Ms. London indicates that the group may continue its threats against UCLA faculty members.

"Water was our second choice, fire was our first," the statement reads. "We will not stop until UCLA discontinues its primate vivisection program."

**Submitted by Mary M. Beran, M.A.
Georgia Technical College**

NABR Article

Survivors, Research Saves the Lives of Animals Too

Many people believe that research with animals is conducted for the exclusive benefit of humans. In fact, practically all biomedical research with lab animals also advances veterinary medicine and helps companion animals live longer, happier and healthier lives. Dozens of diseases, affecting both humans and animals, are prevented through the administration of vaccines. Many other conditions are successfully treated, in both humans and animals, with antibiotics. From asthma and epilepsy, from high blood pressure to cancer, people and their pets share myriad diseases and therapies. And thanks to animal research, effective new drugs have been designed, sophisticated medical devices have been developed and remarkable surgical procedures have been perfected – for human and veterinary medical care.

For years, there was basically one way to treat sick pets: Put them to sleep. But today they can live happy, long lives. Because animal research has resulted in medical advances for both you and your four-legged family members. (That news should make them wag their tails. Unless, of course, they're cats.)

To read more go to:
<http://www.fbresearch.org/survivors/>




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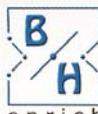
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