

University of Washington  
September 17, 2015 IACUC Meeting Minutes

Members Present:	AB	EC	ML
	JB	MG	SL
	PB	CH	JM
	TB	CJ	MN
			AS
Members Absent:	CG (Scientist)	JS	NK
	CG (Public)	JS (Public)	SD

\*EC chaired the meeting in the absence of JS.

**Opening Business:**

The IACUC Chair called the meeting to order at 2:30pm.

**Approval of the August 20, 2015, IACUC Meeting Minutes**

The Chair called for approval of the minutes.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the August Minutes.

Discussion: None

Vote on the Motion: The Meeting Minutes were approved with 9 members voting in favor and 4 abstentions.

**Attending Veterinarian's Report**

**Facility issues:**

- **Power Outage:**

On Aug 29, 2015 there was a campus wide power outage that lasted just over an hour. The generator in Foege did not come on as it should have thus the animal rooms at Foege were without power (ventilated racks not running and lights off) for that period. The generator problem was identified and has been corrected.

- **Humidity:** No reports.

- **Temperature and Lighting:**

On August 30, 2015 one centralized animal facility had increased temperatures (9am) probably associated with a clogged filter and stuck dampers. Animal facility staff and the veterinary staff responded as well as the HVAC technicians. The temperature reached a high of 88°F in one room, and mice were moved from that room. Two other

rooms were out of range (84°F and 80°F). The problems were completely resolved by 3pm.

Discussion: AB asked at what temperature are animals removed. TB responded generally at 85°F.

**Protocol Monitoring**: There are 14 protocols on the veterinary monitoring program. One is a new protocol that involves the study of sleep apnea in swine. Ten protocols involve surgery, 2 involve restraint and surgery, 1 involves anesthesia and other procedures, and 1 involves other procedures.

**Adverse events**:

Protocol 4346-01: (some histology reports are pending)

This goal of this project is to relocate nuisance beavers from the Puget Sound lowlands and relocate them to upper watersheds of the Skykomish River. The project is funded and managed by the Tulalip Tribes, but UW is involved in quantifying the ecological benefits of beaver relocation (to streams and aquatic habitat). The methods used for this relocation effort are part of a larger effort by beaver researchers throughout the west. Simply relocating beavers by capturing them and moving them has been shown by numerous researchers to be not very successful (20-30%). This project is in its second year, and involves capturing the beavers, then pairing them up with beavers of the opposite sex while holding them on tribal land, then relocating the pair to the new site. If a family group is captured, the family group is relocated. This has been shown to double the success rate of the relocation.

Last year, there were 2 deaths out of 27 beavers captured. This year, there has been significantly more mortality, probably associated with capturing less thrifty animals. The annual renewal details some of this mortality but this summary is what is known to date. There is no evidence of a contagious disease problem. This group has partnered with the veterinarians at the PAWs wildlife clinic in Lynnwood that have extensive experience working with beavers. The disinfection protocol and husbandry protocol have been reviewed thoroughly by the PAWs veterinarians as well as DCM veterinary staff. A few recent changes include taking a blood sample for clinical examination at the trapping time as well as altering their diet to attempt to provide more high quality protein. These changes were approved in a Significant Change.

Five adult animals have died in captivity this year either at the holding site or at the veterinary clinic. Two of those animals had been paired together and there could have been disease transmission between them. Two of the others died shortly after trapping. Necropsy findings consistent with bacterial infections have been noted in several cases. There have also been four kits that have died; two in early to mid-June, one in a family group with the two paired animals and then one on 8/31. No necropsy results are available on the later one at this time.

TB will provide more information as it becomes available.

MN inquired about the medical records at PAWS and whether we know the criteria for euthanasia. TB replied that good clinical judgment should be relied on and the PAWS veterinarians should use their expertise.

SL asked about environmental conditions that may be impacting the animals. TB replied that different weather patterns may be impacting the survivability this year and stressed that it is important to get them back to their original environments.

### **Office of Animal Welfare Director's Report**

STI reminded the IACUC to review the OAW summary on SharePoint.

Responses to Letter of Counsel from August meeting:

- Protocol 4306-01: The person responsible for two of the missed feedings was removed from the lab. In addition, after the incident with building access occurred, the group identified and formalized procedures on what to do in such a case (i.e., building security will provide access in the case that card keys are not working).

In addition to the above steps, the group has also made several other changes to prevent future occurrences. First, they have changed their feeding model from a lab duty that is equally shared among all lab members to one that is performed primarily by a single person. While weekend feedings will continue to be done on a shared basis, they have instituted a new policy by which their facility manager will individually contact any lab members scheduled for weekend feeding duties to remind them of their shift 1-2 days prior. They instituted this policy at the start of the summer and it has been working very well so far.

- Protocol 2797-04: The group will use a sustained release buprenorphine, which will cover the time period appropriately postoperatively. The significant change has been submitted and approved.
- Protocol 2153-08: The individual technician has been retrained, and others in the laboratory involved with animal surgeries have been informed of the appropriate procedures in the event of adverse postoperative outcomes.

### **Protocol Review**

- Dr. Lieber, 3108-02 V.12 "Toxicology Studies With Adenovirus Derived Proteins in NHPs"

It was explained that this Significant Change was being discussed at the meeting due to urgency. The Significant Change was summarized for the Committee and involved a change in the blood collection protocol for one animal.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the Significant Change.

Discussion: None

Vote on the Motion: The Significant Change was approved with 12 members voting in favor and 1 abstention.

- Dr. Pasupathy, 4133-01 “Neural Basis of Visual Shape Representation and Recognition”

This protocol utilizes non-human primates to decipher the brain processes involved in visual shape perception and object recognition and memory with the goal of understanding normal brain function in order to design rational treatments and cures for neurologic impairments. Animals on this protocol undergo several surgeries in order to record the function of neurons along the visual pathway. There are two Significant Changes for repair/revision surgeries. It is important for the group to maintain a repair surgery for each animal as they make a huge investment in time and effort to prepare these animals for recording (animals typically spend a year to 1.5 years getting trained on a behavioral task) replacing this animal with another naïve animal (because experimental hardware came undone, etc) would be a loss of valuable effort and time, on both our behalf and the animal's. Currently each of our animals is approved for 1 repair/correction surgery according to our protocol.

- Significant Change V.44, A05066 - This significant change is for an additional repair surgery. He recently had his repair surgery used for the removal of a chamber ring. This animal's next task is to record from IT cortex. This will be the animal's final task in the lab. He has provided data from both V4 chambers and one PFC chamber. The group's goal is to compare activity from V4, PFC and IT cortex from the same animal and thus, they have to record data from him on the IT experiment.

He had both the V4 chamber and PFC chamber removed because these chambers were no longer providing data. The group felt that keeping the chambers open when no longer being used is not good practice. He currently has one IT chamber on his head and is scheduled to have the craniotomy/porthole surgery in October. The group intends that this will be the final surgery he will have. Having a repair surgery on hand is only for an emergency.

The animal's surgical history was summarized since his assignment to the protocol in 2006. He has had 1 repair surgery, and 10 other surgeries. Specifically, he has had 1 head post, 5 chamber surgeries, 3 porthole surgeries and 1 other craniotomy.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the Significant Change.

Discussion: MN asked when the ring was removed. Record shows it was March.

Vote on the Motion: The Significant Change was approved unanimously with 13 members voting in favor.

- Significant Change V.45, A05018 – This significant change is for an additional repair surgery. This animal recently had his repair surgery used for the removal of a chamber ring. This animal is currently being recorded from a PFC chamber. He has provided data from one V4 chamber. The next steps for this animal will be a second V4 chamber and an IT chamber. He is about half way through the process of their protocol. He will be the second animal on the IT experiments; they need two animals to publish any study. They will continue their investigations into how V4 neurons contribute to shape representation and recognition in the second V4 chamber.

This animal had his V4 chamber removed in June because that chamber had ceased to yield further data. This is a normal process after a chamber has been under use for an extensive period of time. The group feels that it is not good practice to have open chambers that are not being used so the V4 chamber was removed for the health and well-being of the animal. He currently has one chamber in place.

The animal's surgical history was summarized since his assignment to the protocol in 2007. The animal has had 5 surgeries, one repair surgery and 4 other surgeries. One head post, two chambers were placed and two craniotomies performed – one at the same time a chamber was removed.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the Significant Change.

Discussion: Repair was used to remove the chamber. Repair is different than additional procedures that are already approved in their protocol.

Vote on the Motion: The Significant Change was approved unanimously with 13 members voting in favor.

## Policies and SOP's

- Analgesic in Research Animals – TB presented the SOP and explained that it was modified to clarify that the use of stereotaxic instruments with earbars should be category 1.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the policy.

Discussion: None

Vote on the Motion: The SOP was approved unanimously with 13 members voting in favor.

- Anesthesia Certification Requirements in USDA Regulated Animals – TB presented this SOP and explained that the policy background section had changed to reflect that the goal of the policy is to ensure that personnel are competent to perform anesthesia. This policy applies to all researchers and staff members at the UW and does not allow for grandfathering.

Additionally, the policy now contains qualifications that people must meet before they can be certified.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the policy.

Discussion: General discussion about the applicability of the policy as outlined continued.

Vote on the Motion: The SOP was approved unanimously with 13 members voting in favor.

### **Subcommittee Updates**

- Lean Group Update  
Slides are on the SharePoint site for review.  
GL reviewed the current status of the protocol pre-review and updated that it is going well.
- Harm Benefit Subcommittee Update  
Currently discussing food/water restriction policies and hope to have a draft of these at next meeting.
- Training  
Training will be a standing agenda item at all meetings. We will send out a schedule as to what training topics we will be covering.

AAALAC preparation and update will be part of training at the next meeting.

### **Site Visit Summary**

- The August site visit summary was posted late to the SharePoint site – please review it prior to the next meeting.
- Site visitors need to fill out doodle poll more quickly and put site visit on their calendar.

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CJ ask how to respond if a lab has had the same deficiency over and over. A member replied that it would depend on the deficiency. Always check with OAW for follow-up.

Are site visit forms 1 back or 2 back? Post-meeting follow up – the site visit coordinator does always include 2 back. If there is only 1 back then it is because the site has only been active for that long.

Closing Business:

The meeting was brought to a close at 3:28 pm. The floor was opened to public comment.