Animal Welfare Matters e-news

This e-news provides current information relating to animal welfare and ethics

» Professor Hugh Barrett appointed as new Chair for UWA Animal Ethics Committees (AECs)

» Important Notices from the AECs

» Changes to Blue and Green AECs in 2017

» 3Rs Award Winner 2016 announced

See below for further details

Important Notices from the AECs

» New Chair for UWA Animal Ethics Committees

NHMRC Senior Research Fellow, Professor Hugh Barrett, has been appointed to chair UWA’s Animal Ethics Committees.

We look forward to working with Professor Barrett and the members of the Animal Ethics Committees, to further enhance UWA’s framework for the use of animals in research.

Professor Barrett's research focuses on the development of mathematical models, using a systems biology approach, to describe the metabolic pathways of lipid and lipoprotein metabolism in a variety of dyslipidemias. His research has contributed to various interventions designed to reduce cardiovascular disease burden. Hugh has published more than 200 research papers and he has been invited to speak at
Hugh’s experience using human, animal and in vitro systems in research and his positions on various boards and review panels holds in him good stead for this new role as Chair of the UWA Animal Ethics Committees.

We thank the outgoing Chair, Professor Alan Dench, for his hard work and commitment.

_requirements for reporting animal use for 2016_

You must submit to UWA an AEC annual report and your animal usage statistics, required by the Government of Western Australia, Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia (DAFWA). Both reports must be completed and submitted online via the UWA electronic Research Management System – InfoEd, and this service is now available. A reminder letter, including instructions for submitting your reports, will be issued in mid-November to alert researchers that the deadline is **18 January 2017**.

Note: Failure to submit a complete and accurate report for the 2016 calendar year by this deadline is a breach of compliance and may result in approval being withdrawn or suspended.

Instructions for completing and submitting your reports is also available at the Animal Ethics Annual Report - InfoEd Login page. For assistance contact the Animal Ethics Office.

**When does your AEC approval expire?**

If you are approaching your current protocol expiry date but plan to continue animal work in 2017, you may require an extension to an existing protocol or you may need to submit a new application.

If you wish to submit an application or amendment to the final AEC meetings for 2016, the relevant submission deadlines are: 4th November (for Blue AEC) and 11th November (for Green AEC). The AEC meeting dates for 2017 are available [here](#). Note: Allow at least 6 weeks from submission date to approval.

**Changes to Blue and Green AECs in 2017**

Commencing in 2017, the distribution of animal ethics applications to the two UWA AECs (Blue and Green) will now be based on animal species, rather than by school.

To identify your relevant AEC, please refer to the Animal Species lists in the table below or contact the Animal Ethics Office for additional information.

**Blue AEC**
- Laboratory mammals (*rodents, guinea pig, rabbit, ferret*)
- Laboratory fish (*zebrafish only*)

**Green AEC**
- Domestic animals (*sheep, pigs, goats, alpacas etc.*)
- Native animals
- Amphibians & reptiles
- Aquatic animals
- Birds
- Zoo animals
- Non-endemic pest mammals
Other Notices

Poison Standards—Rescheduling of Pentobarbitone

The Therapeutic Drugs Administration (TGA) is considering up-scheduling of pentobarbitone (pentobarbital) from Schedule 4 to Schedule 8. This will mean that it will be regarded as a Controlled Drug like morphine. This will impact on how this drug is acquired, stored (S8 compliant safe), audited and accessed by researchers.

TGA are currently seeking comments from interested parties on the proposed amendments to the Poisons Standard. For further details or to submit comments, see the TGA website. This consultation closes on 20 October 2016.

3Rs Animal Ethics Award Winner 2016

This award recognises an individuals or group who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of the 3Rs.

Professor Robyn Owens, DVC(R), on the recommendation of the Animal Ethics Committee, has awarded the 3Rs Animal Ethics Award of $5000 to Professor George Yeoh and the Liver Disease and Carcinogenesis laboratory, UWA Centre for Medical Research. This research group has worked persistently over a long period of time to refine a difficult model to improve animal welfare and optimise research outcomes. The model, issues and implemented refinements are well described in a high impact journal publication, demonstrating a commitment to following the principles of the ARRIVE guidelines, for transparent reporting of research using animals.

For more information on how to apply please visit the 3Rs Animal Ethics Award webpage.

Previous 3Rs Animal Ethics Award Winners
2015: Professor Shaun Collin, Ms Caroline Kerr and Ms Lucille Chapuis
2014: Associate Professor Bruno Meloni
2013: Research Assistant Tracy Mann and Professor Peter Henry

Need help with your AEC Application?

Hints and tips on completing AEC applications

Time/Date: 12.30-1.30pm - Every Wednesday
Location: Room 2.09, North West Wing of Admin Building
Contact: vets-research@uwa.edu.au

For further details and map see AVWA webpage.

Compulsory pre-review of AEC applications drafted by first time authors.

If this is the first time you have prepared an application for submission to a UWA AEC, please be aware that you are required to arrange a compulsory preparatory review of your application by an Animal Welfare and Veterinary Advisor (AWVA) before you submit the documents to the AEC.

For further information and advice, contact the Animal Welfare and Veterinary Advisors.
E-mail: vets-research@uwa.edu.au
Wildlife Health and Conservation Short Course

This 5 day intensive short course offered by Murdoch University provides participants with the practical training including how to capture, restrain and sample different species, humane euthanasia and chemical immobilisation, including darting. For more information go to this [web link](#).

October /November Key Dates

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<tr>
<th>OCTOBER 19</th>
<th>Programme in Animal Welfare Ethics and Science – PAWES</th>
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<tr>
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<td>The next PAWES course is on Wednesday 19th October. Note this is the last course for 2016). For further details see <a href="#">webpage</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<th>NOVEMBER 4</th>
<th>Submission deadline for Blue AEC meetings (on 24th November)</th>
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<tr>
<th>NOVEMBER 11</th>
<th>Submission deadline for Green AEC meetings (on 1st December)</th>
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