

**ARIZONA BRANCH NEWSLETTER LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE
"AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR LABORATORY ANIMAL SCIENCE"
OCTOBER 1991**

MINUTES OF THE PAST MEETING

The meeting was held on August 26, 1991 at the College of Medicine in Room 1119B. President, Jane Criswell called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. She announced that the first item on the agenda was our guest speaker, Steve Stringer. Steve is a research Assistant with the Department of Surgery and his topic was Diastolic Dysfunction Subsequent to Global Ischemia/Reperfusion Injury in the Rabbit Heart.

Jane asked Grace Aranda, Secretary/Treasurer to read the minutes of the last meeting held 5-19-91. No corrections were made on these minutes. Jane then gave a brief summary of the financial statements which amounted to \$7000+. Jane also announced that the branch has over 100 members.

It was announced that the branch event following the symposium on Saturday, September 28, 1991 has been set. Will be a hayride and western cookout. Jane, Kathy Stollberg and Grace have decided to go with the El Conquistador Stables. Prices are \$28 for adults and \$10 for kids. The branch has until noon on Friday, September 27, 1991 to get the final count for the event.

Kathy gave an update for the program committee. Requests for donation of raffle items are going smoothly and she will go out and purchase some raffle prizes for the out of town winners. She also passed around a couple of different covers for the dinner program and everyone present voted for the final cover.

Louise Brooks asked for volunteers for the registration committee to man the registration table at the symposium. Nancie Nuñez will be working both days and Casey Kilcullen agreed to help.

Meeting was adjourned 12:45 p.m.

REQUEST FOR NEW MEMBERS

Arizona has had a branch of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science since July of 1985. For those of you not familiar with this organization, AALAS serves as a clearing house for the collection and exchange of information on all aspects of the care and management of laboratory animals. Membership in the local chapter is only \$5/year.

Please send your check or money order made out to Arizona Branch AALAS, University of Arizona, Bldg 101, Rm 114, Tucson, AZ 85721.

SPONSORS

If you are interested in placing an ad in the newsletter the following price schedules are in effect:

- \$30 for business card size ad
- \$40 for 1/4 page size
- \$60 for 1/2 page ad
- \$85 for full page ad

Each ad will run four times during the year. In addition, if your organization has any more general announcements and/or articles which would be of interest to our members, please feel free to send them to us for publication. Please send copy to Newsletter Editor: University of Arizona, Bldg 101, Rm 114, Tucson, AZ 85721.

CERTIFICATION EXAMS

TEST DATES	APPLICATIONS DUE
Last week in January	November 15
Last week in May	March 15
Last week in August	June 15
Week of National & following week	August 15

AALAS has an Animal Technician Certification Program which serves two main purposes. It provides a mechanism for developing standards of competence for people who work in the field of laboratory animal science and it recognizes people who meet and exceed these standards by awarding them certification at three different levels: Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician, Laboratory Animal Technician, and Laboratory Animal Technologist.

In order to qualify for AALAS certification, applicants must pass their exams (written and practical) and meet educational and experience requirements which are outlined in the AALAS publication 83-1, "The Animal Technician Certification Program".

The minimum requirements to take the exams at each level are:

- (1) Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician - must have completed grammar school, have 6 months of work experience in a laboratory animal facility and have education in animal science and/or relevant work experience totaling another 6 months.
- (2) Laboratory Animal Technician - must have completed high school, have 2 years of work experience in a laboratory animal facility and have education in animal science and/or relevant work experience totaling another 2 years.
- (3) Laboratory Animal Technologist - must have completed high school, have 2 years of work experience in a laboratory animal facility and have education in animal science and/or relevant work experience totaling another 3 years.

Provisional certificates for all three certification levels are given to those applicants who meet the educational requirements and pass the examination (practical and written), but who do not yet meet the experience requirements. A provisional certificate is valid for 3 years.

A candidate may apply for provisional certification once the education requirement is met and his or her instructor makes the recommendation.

Once the experience requirements have been met, the candidate may apply for full certification.

If you are interested in the certification program you may call 602-621-1330 for additional information.

AALAS UPDATE

It has been announced by the Executive Director of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science that Casey Kilcullen-Steiner, Manager of University Animal Care, has been elected to the AALAS Board of Trustees from district Eight. The Board of Trustees is the legislative body of the organization and it conducts all business of the association. The Board of Trustees consists of 2 trustees and an alternate from each of the eight districts. All members of the Board of Trustees are entitled to vote. The term of office of a trustee is three years. Our thanks go out to all our National members who voted for Casey. It is an honor that someone

from the Arizona Branch has been elected to a National position.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE NEWS

Waxman Bill Approved By House

On July 25, the US House of Representatives passed HR 2507, the National Institutes of Health Revitalization Amendments of 1991, by a vote of 274 - 144. This omnibus bill contains three titles of particular importance to the research community. Title II provides protection from crimes committed by animal extremists for facilities receiving financial assistance from the US Public Health Service, and two other sections address the use of non-animal methods in biomedical research and testing.

HR 2507 also contains several controversial provisions which have led President Bush to threaten to veto if they remain in the bill. The most contentious provision overturns a ban on funding research using fetal tissue. In addition, the President opposes language in a provision requiring NIH to allocate more resources to women's health issues and include more women and minorities in clinical trials. The bill has been sent to the Senate and is under consideration by the Labor and Human Resources Committee.

(NABR Update, Volume XII, Number 18, August 5, 1991)

Ad Likens Meatpackers to Mass Killer Dahmer

(AP- Des Moines) An animal-rights group has taken out an advertisement comparing meatpackers to admitted mass killer Jeffrey L Dahmer of Milwaukee, a tactic denounced by the meat industry as "an obscenity."

"What we hope to accomplish is to point out that abuse is abuse, regardless of the species," said Kathy Guillermo of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

We hope it will jolt a few people into realizing that what happened to those people is no different than what happens to animals."

Dave Mehlhaff, spokesman for the National Pork Producers Council, said the ad is "not just tasteless, it's an obscenity."

"For them to try to capitalize on this shocking tragedy in Milwaukee, we think is sick and demented," he said.

The ad scheduled to run in the (August 9, 1991) edition's of the Des Moines Register, reads in part:

"Milwaukee...July 1991. They were drugged and dragged across the room...Their legs and feet were bound together...Their struggles and cries went unanswered...Then they were slaughtered and their heads sawn off...Their body parts were refrigerated to be eaten later...It's still going on. If this leaves a bad taste in your mouth, become a vegetarian.

The ellipses are in the ad copy.

"We are getting some calls from readers who are upset, but a majority are coming away with an understanding that we have an obligation to run it," said Nancy Jo Trafton-Dyer, national advertising manager for the newspaper.

"We are providing a vehicle for free speech." She said the ad cost \$11,200.

The ad was rejected by The Milwaukee Sentinel, and Guillermo said the animal-rights group decided to pursue The Register because there are a large number of slaughterhouses in Iowa.

Bob Dye, a vice president for Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel Inc, said the ad was rejected because of content.

Dahmer has admitted killing 17 male victims and dismembering most of them.

(The Arizona Republic, August 9, 1991)

Artificial Pancreas Transplanted into Dogs

An artificial insulin-making pancreas that was transplanted successfully into dogs could lead to a permanent treatment for diabetes, medical researchers reported in Science magazine.

The two-ounce artificial pancreas, shaped like but smaller than a hockey puck, could help hundreds of thousands of Americans control glucose or blood sugar levels without daily injections of insulin. The "hybrid organ" - so called because it is part plastic and part living cells - is implanted under the skin and grafted to an artery and a vein.

It's a giant first step toward what is essentially a permanent pancreas transplant without the need for immune suppression drugs," Richard Kahn, chief scientist for the American Diabetes Association, told the Washington Post.

Researchers at New England Deaconess Hospital and Harvard Medical School said the device has functioned successfully for more than six months in diabetic dogs. The dogs became diabetics through surgical removal of their pancreas glands. Then two artificial devices were implanted in each dog and researchers monitored the animal's insulin levels.

Doctors have tried in recent years to treat diabetes by transplanting human pancreases, or pancreas cells that make insulin, but they have trouble overcoming rejection from the recipient. The artificial device has a unique membrane that protects the cells from rejection by the immune system but allows insulin to enter the bloodstream.

If it can be successfully implanted in the people, the device could allow diabetics to control blood-sugar levels without daily injections of insulin. The researchers said the plastic pancreas would require about two more years of development before it is ready for testing in humans. They speculated that it should lead to a similar hybrid devices to treat other human diseases.

About 11 million Americans - 5% of the US population - suffer from diabetes, which is caused by the body's failure to produce or use insulin effectively.

(FBR Newsletter, Volume VIII, Number 4, July/August 1991)

Silver Spring Monkeys Yield Surprising Scientific Knowledge

During the euthanasia of two Silver Spring Monkeys on April 12th, researchers discovered new information that challenges a long-held neuroscience theory. It has been known for several years that if the brain loses sensory input from some part of the body - the thumb for example - nerve impulses from a neighboring part of the body - a finger, say - sometimes encroach on the area of the brain dedicated to the thumb. However, all previous research indicated this encroachment to be fairly insignificant, only 1 or 2 millimeters.

When the health of the remaining Silver Spring Monkeys began to deteriorate to the point that euthanasia for humane reasons became imminent, Mortimer Mishkin, a neuroscientist at the National Institutes of Health, suggested that the monkeys provided a unique opportunity to study the portion of the brain deprived of sensory input over a long period of time - longer than any previous animal studied. The monkeys had the sensory nerves to one arm severed in the late 1970's by Dr Edward Taub during research on deafferented limbs.

With the monkeys under deep anesthesia just prior to euthanasia, the researchers measured the electrical impulses in the area of the brain formerly dedicated to the arm. To their surprise, they measured responses to stimulation of nerves as far away as the face. And the reorganization extended over a brain area 10 to 14 millimeters long! This raises the possibility that, if this reorganization can be understood, scientists may be able to harness this type of reorganizational capacity for therapeutic purposes.

(iiFARsighted Update, Volume 5, Number 3, July 1991)

TIME TO SEND IN YOUR NOMINATIONS FOR ARIZONA BRANCH OFFICERS!

Do you know someone who would make a good President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer or Board Member? Do you know someone who is interested and active in the Arizona Branch of AALAS?..... Well, now is your chance to put them in office!

Nominations are now being accepted for this years' officers including, President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer and Board Member. Nominees must be a member in good standing of the Arizona Branch of AALAS. Outgoing President, Vice-President and Board member are not eligible for these same offices, but can be nominated for other offices. Terms for these offices begin January 1, 1992 and end December 31, 1992.

Nominations **must** be submitted no later than November 1, 1991. Send your nomination to: University of Arizona, Bldg. 101, Tucson, Arizona, 85721 - ATTN: Grace.

President: _____

Vice-President: _____

Secretary/Treasurer: _____

Board Member: _____

SYMPOSIUM SUMMARY

A Word from the Arizona AALAS President

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Symposium this year. I think the presentations went well and the food and service was excellent. Special thanks to Grace Aranda for all her hard work!

Jane Criswell

The following persons were instrumental to the success of the Third Annual Fall Symposium as they presented papers or posters at this years event.

Patt Allen, DVM, Assistant Veterinary Specialist, University Animal Care

Grace Aranda, Representative, CFAAR, Coalition For Animals and Animal Research

Milos Chvapil, PhD, MD, Professor, Department of Surgery

Jane Criswell, President, Arizona Branch of AALAS

S. Peder Cuneo, DVM, Research Specialist, University Animal Care

Maura Fahey, Veterinary Dental Technician, W.L. Gore & Associates

Tom Fritz, MS, Research Assistant, Department of Radiology, MRI

Hana Holubec, Research Assistant, Department of Surgery

Charles Lowe, PhD, Professor, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Department

Timothy Martin, DVM, Veterinary Associate, University Animal Care

Brian Minnich, Research Assistant, Department of Physiology
Erwin Montgomery, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Neurology
John Mulder, DVM, Director, University Animal Care
Mary Olsen, BS, Research Assistant, Physiology Department
José Orozco, MD, Research Assistant, Department of Surgery
Vangie Patula, Research Technician, Department of Surgery
Kathy Parton, DVM, Veterinary Associate, University Animal Care
Michael Rand, DVM, Senior Clinical Veterinarian, University Animal Care
Cecil Schwalbe, PhD, Assistant Research Scientist, Renewable Natural Resources
Brian Seastone, BA, Sergeant, University Police Department
Lisa Sebastian, Coordinator, Exercise & Sports Science
Bruce Smith, BS, Laboratory Assistant, Internal Medicine
Charles Sterling, PhD, Department Head, Department of Veterinary Science
Gail Stevenson, DVM, Research Specialist, Arizona Research Labs
Ruy Wanderley, PhD, Research Scientist, Department of Animal Science
Susan Wilson-Sanders, DVM, Associate Director, University Animal Care

We would like to thank the following vendors who sponsored the breaks, continental breakfasts and cocktail social during the symposium:

Allentown Caging Equipment Co.	Bantin & Kingman, Inc.
Basil Equipment Corporation	Edstrom Industries, Inc.
Harlan Sprague Dawley, Inc.	Lab Products, Inc.
LGL, Animal Care Products, Inc.	Nuaire, Inc.
Pharmacal Research Labs, Inc.	Purina Mills, Inc.
Research Equipment Company, Inc.	Sasco, Inc.

The Arizona Branch would like to acknowledge donations made to our raffle by the following businesses:

Airchem	(1) \$20 Gift Certificate to the Big A
All Star Window Tinting	(1) Free Auto Window Tinting
Arizona Desert Museum	(4) Free Pass to the Museum
Bum Steer	(1) Free Dinner for Two
Eegees	(1) Free Lunch or Dinner
Eric's Fine Food & Ice Cream	(2) Free Large Ice Cream Sundae
Grandma Tonys	(2) Free Large Pizza
Leroy Unrest	(25) Arizona Scratch Lottery Ticket
Magpies Pizza	(1) Free Medium Pizza
National Video	(4) Free Movie Rental

OK Feed & Supply	(2) 40 lb Bag of Canine Science Diet
Peter Piper Pizza	(2) Free Pizza
PetsMart	(1) Free Litterbox with Liners and Scoop
Radisson Suite Hotel	(1) Weekend for Two
Royal Car Wash	(4) Free Car Wash
Sasco, Inc	\$20 Cash Donation & Free Shirts and Hats
Shamrock Rabbitry	(1) \$25 PetsMart Gift Certificate
Simonsen Labs, Inc.	\$50 Cash Donation
Teklad	(1) 50 lb Bag of Dog Food
Window Works	(1) Free Car or Truck Tinting

The Arizona Branch of is grateful to all those who worked so hard to ensure the smooth progression from planning through conclusion of our Third Annual Fall Symposium and Fifth Annual Dinner including the following:

Accommodations Committee.	Kathy Aprahamian, Grace Aranda, Nancie Nuñez
Audiovisual Committee	Grace Aranda, Tim Ruddy, Beth Skovan
Awards Committee.	Grace Aranda, Louise Brooks, Michael Flint, Margaret Kilcullen Steiner
Program/Speakers Committee.	Kathy Aprahamian, Grace Aranda, Karella Coronado, Jane Criswell, José Orozco, Kathy Stollberg, Susan Wilson-Sanders
Registration/Financial Committee.	Grace Aranda, Shirly Artwohl, Louise Brooks, Jane Criswell, Cheryl Johnson, Nancie Nuñez, Kathy Stollberg
Security Committee.	Doug Clemons, Tim Ruddy, Rodger Thompson
Sponsor/Vendor Committee.	Grace Aranda, Cheryl Johnson