

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

*** Dated Forms Enclosed ***

October 1992

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Fourth Annual Fall Symposium Summary

The Fourth Annual Fall Symposium was held on September 25-26, 1992. Attendance this year was 80 with quite a few new faces. As usual, we received many comments from those attending on how much they learned from the scientific sessions and enjoyed the Annual Dinner and trip to Nogales, Mexico. Special attractions were our Keynote Speaker Dr. Evan Hersh and Banquet Speaker Michael Flint. The presentation of certificates and pins along with the announcement of the Technician of the Year, Kathy Stollberg and the Member of the Year, José Orozco took place at the Banquet. Nominees for both awards were recognized with ribbons. Ribbons were also presented to Louise Brooks, Jane Criswell, Brenda Kulik, Nancie Nuñez, Karmen Munson, Cindy Richner, who all worked so hard to make sure this year's meeting went well. Grace Aranda received special recognition for all her hard work.

A Word from the Arizona AALAS President

I would like to thank you all for their participation in the 1992 fall symposium. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves. I would also like to give a special thank you to all who were involved in getting it ready, cleaning up and to all who gave speeches and presented posters. See you at the next meeting!

Karmen Munson

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

Patti L. Allen, DVM, Assistant Veterinary Specialist, VA Medical Center/University of Arizona, University Animal Care

William D. Burgua, MBA, Sales Consultant, Nuair Inc

Robert J. Callister, PhD, Research Associate, University of Arizona, Department of **Physiology**

S. Peder Cuneo, DVM, MS, Farm Animal Veterinarian, University of Arizona, University **Animal Care**

Donald W. DeYoung, DVM, PhD, Chief of Experimental Surgery & Clinical Services, **University** of Arizona, University Animal Care

Mia Dhondt, BS, Animal Health Technician, Cedars Sinai Medical Center, **Department of Comparative Medicine**

Dennis M. Dreher, BS, Project Technician, W.L. Gore & Associates

Michael P. Flint, General Curator, Reid Park Zoo

Thomas A. Fritz, MS, Research Associate, University of Arizona, Radiology/MRI

Thomas Hamm, PhD, President, Southwest Association for Education & Biomedical Research

Evan M. Hersh, MD, Professor, University of Arizona, Department of Internal Medicine

Harry R. Hueston, II, MA, Assistant Chief, University of Arizona, University Police Department

Paula D. Johnson, DVM, Senior Research Specialist, University of Arizona, Department of Pediatric Cardiology

Margaret "Casey" Kilcullen-Steiner, MS, Manager, University of Arizona, University Animal Care

Leigh B. Kleinert, AS, Senior Research Specialist, University of Arizona, Department of Surgery

Timothy A. Martin, DVM, Veterinary Associate, University of Arizona, University Animal Care

John B. Mulder, DVM, Director, University of Arizona, University Animal Care

Kathleen Parton, DVM, Veterinary Associate, University of Arizona, University Animal Care

Michael S. Rand, DVM, Senior Clinical Veterinarian, University of Arizona, University Animal Care

Cynthia L. Richner, Animal Technician, University of Arizona, University Animal Care

Dale Skram, BioDecontamination Consultant, Calgon Vestal Labs

Kathleen L. Stollberg, Animal Health Technician, University of Arizona, University Animal Care

Kimberly C. Webster, Senior Animal Technician, University of Arizona, University Animal Care

James White, BA, Program Manager, University of Washington, Regional Primate Research Center

Lisa M. Wilson, Research Specialist, University of Arizona, Department of Physiology

G. Thomas Yard, ALAT, Animal Technician, W.L. Gore & Associates

Our thanks goes to those who donated items for our raffle:

Airchem

Golf N Stuff

Leroy Unrast

OK Feed & Supply

Sizzler

Zip's Records & Tapes

Eric's Fine Food & Ice Cream

Hotel Park Tucson

Lerua's

Sasco, Inc

Teklad

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

Program/Speakers Committee Grace Aranda, Jane Criswell, Donald DeYoung, Brenda Kulik

Registration Committee Grace Aranda, Louise Brooks, Jane Criswell, Cheryl Johnson, Nancie Nuñez, Kathy Stollberg

Awards Committee Kathy Apprahamian, Grace Aranda, Harry Hueston, Margaret Kilcullen-Steiner

Accommodations Committee Grace Aranda, Shirlie Artwohl, Cindy Richner

Security Committee Grace Aranda, Kevin Clapp, Tim Ruddy, Fred Pratt

Sponsor/Vendor Committee Grace Aranda, Cheryl Johnson, Kathy Stollberg

The Arizona Branch would like to congratulate those members who have successfully completed their exams within 1992:

Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician

Brian Ireland

Laboratory Animal Technician

Peg Campbell

Laboratory Animal Technician

Elizabeth Rust

Loretta Barbercheck

Cindy Richner

Laboratory Animal Technologist

Shirlie Artwohl
Vangie Patula
Lisa Sebastian
Kathy Stollberg
Pamela Edwards
Andrea Mitchell

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.

REQUEST FOR NEW MEMBERS - 1992

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.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE IN 1993

Beginning in January we will be offering our vendors institutional membership to the Arizona Branch of AALAS. For just \$50 they receive 2 branch memberships and one business card size ad which will be run for 4 issues of the Arizona AALAS Newsletter. For more information call Grace at (602) 621-1330.

OPPORTUNITY FOR AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP

As of May of this year, the AALAS Bulletin, now called Contemporary Topics in Laboratory Animal Science, will no longer be shipped in bulk to the branches, and certification examination fees, which have not been adjusted since the early '70's, will increase. Non-national members participating in

this program will be charged an additional \$50 at each level. Although many branch members may work within a Member Institution and therefore, can affiliate with the national organization through their place of employment, others may not have that opportunity. The Arizona Branch has purchased a Branch Membership in National AALAS for \$300 and by paying an additional \$20 any member of the Arizona Branch may become an affiliate of National. By joining as a Member Branch, we can create a low cost vehicle for all branch members to affiliate with the national organization. And as a Member Branch "affiliate", local members not only will be entitled to participate in all national programs and services at the member rate, they also will receive a direct copy of Contemporary Topics. In addition, they can attend the four-day AALAS Annual Meeting in Anaheim at the reduced rate for members. This conference will offer hundreds of educational presentations and state-of-the-art product/service exhibits. Affiliates are not eligible to vote or chair national committees. They do receive Contemporary Topics and special mailings; get discounts on educational material and services; and are listed in the Membership Directory. For more information call Grace at (602) 621-1330.

What's New In The News

Animals in Research Workshop - Medical Progress: A Miracle at Risk

The American Medical Association (AMA) is pleased to have the Southwest Association for Education in Biomedical Research as co-sponsor of a one day workshop on November 12, 1992 at the University of Arizona, College of Medicine, Duval Auditorium. This session is designed to build grass roots support for the use of animals in research via physicians, researchers, and students - individuals viewed by Americans as trusted and balanced sources of medical and scientific information.

The AMA designates this CME activity for 6 credit hours of Category 1 credit of the Physician's Recognition Award of the AMA.

Registration is free to all medical and graduate students and residents; \$25 to all members of the AMA, and SwAEER, and \$35 to non-members. The fee includes continental breakfast, a coffee break, lunch and a comprehensive resource kit with corresponding slides, video, sample letters, etc.

To preregister, please call the AMA on or before October 25, 1992 between 9-4:45 CST at (312) 464-4574. Proof of identification and affiliation will be required for all participants.

A Brief Statement of Dr. Jerry Fineg's, (Nominee for President Elect) Goals for National AALAS are:

I am of the opinion that the leadership of an organization that has grown as large and as rapidly as AALAS, with its many diversities of interests, can at time appear to lose touch with its general membership. It would be my major effort to strive for greater unity within the organization by being responsible to the membership at large.

I feel there is a need to enhance the development of a cadre of future leaders willing to work for and with the membership. I would therefore convene a committee made up of Branch Presidents and Trustees to study the current structure of AALAS with one of its missions; to evaluate the proposed elimination of the District Trustee concept and replace it with Branch Presidents. This groups would then select an Executive Committee whose membership would most effectively represent the various districts/regions.

I feel there is a current need to expand upon the involvement of more of our talented membership in the activities of AALAS. I would therefore propose that committee membership no allow Trustee/Executive Committee members to sit as voting members of any committee except those presently required by the constitution/by-laws of AALAS.

Lastly, I would encourage the membership to look inwardly. Not every AALAS project need be self supporting. AALAS was founded on the premise that it would promote Laboratory Animal Science. In so doing, the organization must continue to provide many functions and services for the mere welfare of its constituency. In an effort to assist in the accomplishment of these services, I would strive to broaden our funding base through the solicitation of support from agencies heretofore untapped.

Message From the REB Chair, by John Worsing, DVM

Welcome to the newly appointed REB chairmen, REB members, and special examiners. In the past, these appointments were made in the fall and took effect of January 1. However, since this was only a few weeks before the January window examination, the ATCB decided to change the appointments to October 1 through September 30. Now experienced presidents can make the new nominations and the appointments can take effect before the AALAS Annual Meeting each fall.

Training is an important aspect of every REB's job. Each of you have taken and passed the REB examination to become qualified as an examiner. However, there are many important aspects of your job that could not be covered on that test. For this reason, we have scheduled a training session during the AALAS Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 1 from 2 to 5 PM. Every REB chairman and special examiner should plan to attend this important session. If the chair cannot attend, then please appoint another REB member to attend in your place.

We want to make this training session as valuable as possible for all REB members. Therefore, I would encourage all of our readers to take a few minutes and complete the survey on page 2. This will help develop the content of the training session, much of which will be devoted to answering questions. The information provided in this session will also be summarized for an issue of the REB review.

Again please mark your calendars for Sunday, November 1 from 2 to 5 p.m. See you in Anaheim!

Charles River Laboratories Announces 1993 Short Course

The 1993 Charles River Laboratories' Short Course in Laboratory Animal Science will be held Jun 7-9, 1993 at the Marriott Hotel, Andover, MA. Track 1 is designed for veterinarians preparing for the ACLAM boards and Track 2 for laboratory managers and supervisors seeking to better their knowledge of specific laboratory animal issues.

For further information, please call Toni Formichella at 508-658-6000, ext. 468.

Charles River Laboratories to Open New Breeding Facility in California

Wilmington, MA, July 20 ... Charles River Laboratories, one of the world's leading suppliers of animals and services to the biomedical research community, recently announced that in response to customer demand, it has begun construction of a state-of-the-art commercial production facility located just south of San Jose, California.

The new facility will enhance Charles River's ability to deliver VAF/Plus (Virus Antibody Free) rodents to West Coast customers in a timely manner, including special requests and off-cycle orders.

Donald Moody, an employee of Charles River for more than eight years, and most recently Manager, Swine Operations at its headquarters in Wilmington, MA, has been named plant manager for the new operation. Moody recently stated that, "We intend the California plant to be the most advanced commercial production facility in the industry. Each barrier room will house its own cage wash, autoclave and crate disinfection areas, and production rooms throughout the plant will be separated by a series of air locks to prevent against contamination."

Moody will take an active role in all production functions of the facility, in addition to direct customer contact and involvement with local and national AALAS (the American Association of Laboratory Animal Science) chapters.

Presently, Charles River estimates that the new facility will employ approximately thirty people, and plans to begin stocking this West Coast facility in January 1993.

CERTIFICATION EXAMS

The AALAS Animal Technician Certification Program is an authoritative endorsement of an individual's knowledge about the care and treatment of laboratory animals. The program certifies three levels of technician competence: Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician, Laboratory Animal Technician and Laboratory Animal Technologist.

National AALAS is responsible for preparing and distributing examinations. Examinations are administered through a system of volunteer REB members and Special Examiners. The AALAS Animal Technician Certification Program is governed by the laws and regulations of the state of Tennessee.

All three levels of examinations contain 140 multiple-choice questions with a single correct answer. The examinations for each level of certification become harder as one progresses from ALAT to LAT to LATG certification.

Forty questions form the slide portion of the examination. This examination test knowledge and abilities gained from working in a laboratory animal facility. Examinees answer questions about slides that show a variety of laboratory animals, laboratory animal facility equipment, diagnostic equipment, or common laboratory animal techniques. The remaining one hundred (100) questions in the written portion of the examination relate to the six subject areas found in the "Basic Course Outline." The six areas are: administration and management, health and science, husbandry, environmental matters, sanitation and safety, and techniques.

During 1992, certification examinations will be administered during the following four examination periods: January 15 - 31, May 15 - 31, August 15 - 31 and November 1 - 15. The exact date and time of the examination is set by the REB Examining Board Chairman or Special Examiner. Applicants are notified of the exact date and time approximately two weeks prior to the examination. It is the examinee's responsibility to take the examination at the place and time scheduled by the REB Chairman or Special Examiner.

All applications must be sent to the REB Chairman or Special Examiner for approval. Applications sent to the AALAS office without REB review will be returned.

Applications may not be reproduced. Additional applications may be obtained from the REB Examining Board Chairman or the AALAS office. Applications must be filled in completely and neatly. An application that is not complete or is not readable will be returned. This could result in a delay of your examination. Send the completed application and certification fee to the Chairman of the Regional Examining Board (REB) or Special Examiner for your area.

The following fees are effective beginning with the May examination.

	National AALAS Members	NonMembers*
ALAT	\$30	\$80
LAT	\$40	\$90
LATG	\$60	\$110

* Nonmembers may apply the \$50 nonmember fee toward membership in national AALAS for the remainder of the calendar year.

Applicants must meet the minimum requirements for both education and experience in a laboratory animal facility found on the following page. This also contains a definition of a laboratory animal facility. Minimum work experience refers to full time employment. Time away from work, including maternity leave, disability leave or long time illness cannot be counted toward work experience. Work experience must be related to the maintenance of health and well being of animals, or handling and treatment of animals, or supervision of individuals directly associated with animals and their primary enclosures. For example, work experience in the accounting section of a laboratory animal resource is not considered to be related to the maintenance of health and well being of the animals. Work experience in necropsy or surgery section of a laboratory animal resource is considered to be related to the maintenance of the health and well being of animals. College credits refer to semester units.

The application must be signed by the applicant's immediate supervisor to validate the information provided.

To be eligible to apply for provisional certification at the ALAT and LAT level, the applicant must have a degree or diploma from a program in laboratory animal science, veterinary technology, or a life science. Persons currently enrolled in such a program may apply for provisional certification under the following restrictions:

- 1) The applicant must complete the program within 30 days from the end of the examination period.
- 2) The applicant must send proof of graduation (either a transcript which indicates graduation or a photocopy of the diploma) to the AALAS office within 90 days from the end of the examination period.

Provisional certification lasts for three (3) years following the examination date. The examinee must complete the required work experience within this period.

Applicants may not use experience as part of a course practicum, internship, or externship for any part of the full-time equivalent (FTE) work experience requirement. Full time employment is calculated at 1950 hours per year. Part time employment will be credited in terms of its full time equivalent.

Applicants must submit proof of employment for each employer listed on the application.

Applicants must have the following minimum, full time equivalent (FTE) animal care work experience in a laboratory animal facility.

ALAT = at least 6 months of the 1 year total required, LAT = at least 1 year of the 3 years total required, LATG = at least 2 years of the 6 years total required.

Use the following ratio to determine the number of months of experience that your college level life science credits will earn: 32 semester hours = 2 years experience, 16 semester hours = 1 year experience and 8 semester hours = 6 months experience.

A photocopy of the applicant's diploma is required if the degree is offered in lieu of work experience. A photocopy of the applicant's transcript is required if individual courses are offered in lieu of work experience.

Examinees receive a letter containing the pass/fail results of their examination with 60 days after the end of the examination period. Actual grades are not provided, however.

1993 Examination Dates

There will be three examination windows during 1993 on the following dates:

Examination Date	Applications Due (due to REB chairman)
January 15-31	November 1, 1992
May 15-31	March 1, 1993
September 1-15	June 15, 1993

Certification Qualifications

Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician (ALAT)

	Minimum Education	plus	Minimum Work Experience
1.	Grammar school (8th grade) or		1 year in a lab animal facility*
2.	Diploma from a high school vo-tech curriculum in laboratory animal technology or		6 months in a lab animal facility
3.	Diploma from 12 month, post high school program in laboratory animal science or		6 months in a lab animal facility
4.	High school plus 8 college credits in life science		6 months in a lab animal facility

May apply to take the ALAT certification examination on a provision basis if applicant has:

1.	Diploma from high school vo-tech curriculum certification or		No experience (may apply for full after 6 months work in a lab animal facility)
2.	Diploma from 12 month, post high school program in laboratory animal science facility)		No experience (may apply for full certification after 6 months work in a lab animal facility)

Laboratory Animal Technician (LAT)

1.	High school or GED or		3 years in a lab animal facility*
2.	Diploma from a high school vo-tech curriculum in lab animal technology or		2.5 years in a lab animal facility*
3.	Diploma from 12 month, post high school program in animal science or		2.5 years in a lab animal facility*
4.	32 college credit hours in lire sciences or		1 year in a lab animal facility
5.	2 year degree in laboratory animal science or veterinary technology from a college or vo-tech institute.		1 year in a lab animal facility

May apply to take the LAT certification examination on a provisional basis if applicant has:**

1.	2 year degree in lab animal science or veterinary technology from a college or vo-tech institute		No experience (may apply for full certification after 1 year work in a lab animal facility)
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Laboratory Animal Technologist (LATG)

1.	High school or GED or		6 years in a lab animal facility*
2.	2 year degree in laboratory animal science or veterinary technology from a college or institute or		4 years in a lab animal facility
3.	4 year college degree in a life science other than #4 or		3 years in a lab animal facility
4.	4 year college degree in laboratory animal science, 2 or 3 years in lab animal facility		

animal science/husbandry, or veterinary science

- * In these cases, partial credit may be allowed for work experience in animal hospitals or other non-laboratory animal facilities.
- ** Provisional requirements at the LAT level can be used to qualify provisionally at the ALAT level.

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, 1993 and end December 31, 1993.

President:_____

Vice-President:_____

Secretary/Treasurer:_____

Board Member:_____

Nominations **must** be submitted no later than November 9, 1992.

Just fold and mail. The address is already in place for easy mailing!