

Animal Care and Use Committee

Committee Members: J. A. Bryan, II, S. Chavda, B. Danielson, L. Dolan, W. L. Gannon, B. R. Jesmer, E. A. Lacey (co-chair), S. C. Loeb, D. K. Odell, R. S. Sikes (co-chair), R. D. Stevens, T. A. Thompson, R. M. Timm.

Mission:

The ACUC serves as a resource for issues concerning the use of animals in research. The committee maintains information on the ASM website regarding animal use and compliance and publishes revised guidelines regularly. The committee responds to inquiries from Society members, IACUC staff, government and other agencies regarding appropriate use of wild mammals in research. We provide comments on proposed changes to animal use regulations and work to facilitate appropriate oversight of the use of wild mammals in research. Over the past decade, the ACUC has become increasingly recognized for its proactive educational efforts aimed at improving understanding of oversight and regulatory personnel regarding the unique aspects of research with wild mammals.

Information Items – July 2018 to date:

(1) The various iterations of the ASM guidelines continue to serve as the standard for oversight of research involving wild mammals.

(2) Collectively, the efforts of ASM ACUC members are generating a high level of engagement and visibility concerning the challenges of wildlife research among oversight personnel, funders, and regulators. This visibility is particularly important as it fosters greater interaction among stakeholders and promotes recognition of the ASM as a proactive resource for investigators and oversight personnel.

Specific activities by committee members:

(3) ACUC Co-chair Robert Sikes was re-elected to AAALAC International's Council on Accreditation in 2019. Inclusion in this organization provides a critical additional voice within AAALAC International for field-oriented use of mammals in research and teaching.

(4) ASM ACUC member John Bryan was re-appointed as the ASM Delegate to AAALAC International in 2019.

(5) ACUC member John Bryan represented the ASM and spoke on *Wildlife Research Compliance and Oversight: An Overview* at the 2018 annual meeting of the International Wildlife Disease Association held in St. Augustine, FL, August 2018.

(6) ACUC member Tracy Thompson helped to organize a wildlife-focused meeting of the IACUC Administrators Association Best Practices that was held in Fairbanks, Alaska in July of 2018. Both Thompson and ACUC Co-chair Sikes made multiple presentations at this meeting.

7) ACUC member Tracy Thompson was appointed to the PRIM&R planning committee and replaced Co-chair Sikes, who rotated off of this committee in 2018. Her appointment maintains a voice for wildlife in planning the annual PRIM&R IACUC conference, which is an important educational opportunity for animal oversight personnel.

8) ACUC Co-chair Robert Sikes was an invited speaker and panelist at a meeting held in Bogota, Colombia in December of 2018 to discuss oversight of animal research in that country. Sikes presented on *Case Discussion of Studies with Wild Animals and Functions of the IACUC for the Use of Wildlife in Research and Education*.

9) ACUC Co-chair Robert Sikes served as a faculty representative at the annual SCAW conference held in San Antonio, TX in December 2018. Sikes contributed to a session entitled *Take a Walk on the Wildlife Side*, in San Antonio, TX, in December of 2018.

10) ACUC members Robert Sikes, John Bryan, and Tracy Thompson are all scheduled presenters for the 2019 PRIM&R conference, to be held in early April, 2019, in Bellingham, WA. Collectively, these committee members will contribute a total of 4 sessions focused on use of wildlife in research and teaching.

Action Items:

(1) Budget Request

AAALAC International

\$ 1,500.00 Travel to AAALAC Board of Trustees Meeting (transportation and lodging, 3 nights)

\$ 1,500.00

Scientists Center for Animal Welfare (SCAW)

\$ 1,000.00 SCAW (Institutional membership)

\$ 1,500.00 Transportation and lodging, 3 nights

\$ 2,500.00

PRIM&R (Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research)

\$ 500.00 Registration, Annual Meeting

\$ 3,850.00 Transportation and lodging will fund 2 members for 3 nights.

NOTE—funds for second ACUC member to be used only if both serve as PRIM&R faculty

\$ 4,350.00

TOTAL REQUEST

\$ 8,350.00

Respectfully submitted,

E. A. Lacey and R. S. Sikes, co-chairs

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