Animal Care and Use Committee


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 2019 to date:

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

Specific activities by committee members:

(2) ACUC Co-chair Robert Sikes continues to serve on AAALAC International’s Council on Accreditation. Inclusion in this organization provides a critical additional voice within AAALAC International for field-oriented use of mammals in research and teaching.

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

4) ACUC member Tracy Thompson organized a wildlife-focused meeting of the IACUC Administrators Association Best Practices that was held in Flagstaff, AZ in August of 2019. Both Thompson and ACUC Co-chair Sikes made multiple presentations at this meeting.

5) ACUC member Tracy Thompson continues to serve on the PRIM&R planning committee. Her appointment maintains a voice for wildlife in planning the annual PRIM&R IACUC conference, which serves as an important educational opportunity for animal oversight personnel.

6) ACUC Co-chair Robert Sikes served as a faculty representative at the annual SCAW conference held in San Antonio, TX in December 2019, where Sikes contributed to a session entitled Keeping pace with the future: the impact on wildlife populations.

7) ACUC member Sikes presented Oversight of wildlife activities and engaged in the training session of the University of Nebraska System in August of 2019.
Action Items:

(1) Budget Request

AAALAC International
$1,500.00  Travel to AAALAC Board of Trustees/Delegates 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,
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