

University of Washington  
April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 IACUC Meeting Minutes

Members Present:    AW (Remote)            GS (Remote)            KS (Remote)            SRH (Remote)  
                          CH (Remote)            JA (Remote)            MB (Remote)            MK (Remote)  
                          CM (Remote)            JPVH (Remote)        SL (Remote)            FRR (Remote)  
                          DM (Remote)            JS (Remote)            ML (Remote)            KG (Remote)

Members Absent:    AB                            JM

### Opening Business

- The IACUC Chair called the meeting to order at 2:31 pm.

### Confirmation of a Quorum and Announcements

- Quorum was confirmed by LI.

**2:36PM Member Entered**

### Approval of the IACUC Meeting Minutes

- The IACUC Chair called for the approval of the March 2020 meeting minutes.  
Motion was made and seconded: to approve the minutes as written.  
Discussion: *None.*  
Vote: Approved with 13 members voting in favor, 0 against and 1 abstention.

**2:38PM Member Entered**

### Attending Veterinarian's/OAW Director's Report – KS

- Adoptions – 2 rats adopted out in the last month.
- IACUC metrics- see meeting documents
- Corona virus impacts to the animal care and use program:
  - There has been an increase in the number of urgent IACUC reviews to help expedite corona virus related research such as vaccine development and potential treatments. This will probably continue into the foreseeable future.

**2:40 PM Member Entered**

- Semi-annual inspections for this 6-month period have been completed in all housing areas and all but 22 procedural lab spaces. We will attempt to do those remaining lab spaces in May depending on easing of restrictions and lab personnel availability.
- Due to the stay home order, only critical hands-on training with the use of extra PPE has occurred. The number of people in a housing room is being limited in order to maintain the appropriate physical distance. Therefore, only one person at a time facility orientation may occur as long as people wear masks and keep a 6 ft distance. Additional on-line facility

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orientation lessons will be required for all people requesting orientation to help reinforce practices that are hard to demonstrate at a distance. Training restrictions will continue until there is an easing of restrictions as well as receipt of additional guidance on how to conduct training safely.

- Animal care and veterinary staffing has been adequate, and therefore no modifications to husbandry practices have been necessary. Staff are using cloth face masks in common areas, staggering shifts, breaks and lunches as well as hopefully adhering to posted maximum occupancy in various facility spaces to ensure 6 ft physical distancing. There is also a required daily attestation as a reminder not to come into work if one is experiencing symptoms. I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to the DCM and WaNPRC husbandry and veterinary staff for their dedication to the animals in their care.
- Facility issues: None
- Protocol Veterinary Monitoring:
  - Now twenty-one total protocols. Of the protocols, 13 involve surgery, two restraint (and sx), one conscious restraint, 1 tumor modeling, 4 miscellaneous (tape skirt, infection, water quality). Seven are inactive right now. One protocol, 2225-07, which was under general oversight since February 2018, has been removed from active vet monitoring. This project investigates novel gene therapy and human stem cell therapy in pig models of myocardial infarction and scar-mediated arrhythmias. The project has been going very well and the lab will continue to work collaboratively with Vet Services.
  - Follow up on the adverse event in Arizona that occurred in January 2020 where there was an altercation between 2 adult male NHPs due to a transfer door failure between 2 enclosures. We immediately informed the USDA and the VMO visited the site with no deficiencies noted at that time. USDA has decided that we will not be cited for this incidence and there will be no official report from this visit.
- Adverse Events:
  - 4390-01: As part of this protocol which looks at parasitic infections, the parasite must be passaged in rats to maintain viability and immunogenicity. Two rats were subcutaneously injected with parasitic larvae and both rats were found dead in the cage 3 days later. The group did not expect mortality and suspects a more concentrated stock of the parasite was used with this passage. In addition, the rats were not monitored as frequently in the days post infection as described on the protocol.

Corrective Action: The lab was reminded to ensure monitoring is being conducted as described on their protocol.

**Reported to OLAW.**

The lab has not had previous issues and this appears to be a one-off situation.

*An IACUC member asked for clarification regarding if mortality was caused by a dilution error or unexpected results with the parasite. The AV noted that as this issue had not been seen with this parasite before, the mortality was likely due to a concentration error. IACUC*

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*members expressed concern that the animals were not monitored as frequently as described on their protocol and discussed requesting the group to modify their process for the future.*

Motion was made and seconded: to send a letter of counsel.

Further Discussion: *None.*

Vote: Approved with 16 members voting in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

- ARCF Primate Housing room: During overnight hours, a large male NHP broke the 2 locks and a latch on the front part of the connector between 2 side-by-side cages, and managed to push the cages apart allowing both him and his female social partner to escape into the room. Both animals as well as several other NHPs housed in the room sustained injuries primarily to their hands/fingers and as well as some lacerations. All animals are expected to fully recover from their injuries.

Corrective Action: The male has been kept separate/closed from his social partner to limit his ability of breaking the locks holding the cages together and escaping. Currently, additional locks have been added to the 2 other connectors on the front part of the cage so there are 3 total locations on the front cage with locks. The plan is to add on 3 connectors to the back of the cage where locks can be placed, so that the 2 cages are connected/locked together by 3 areas in the front and 3 areas in the back.

**Reported to USDA and OLAW.**

*An IACUC member asked how the injuries were caused. Injuries were likely caused when the escaped NHPs reached into other occupied cages. The AV also confirmed cages will be reinforced to prevent an escape from occurring in the future. The IACUC discussed when the male NHP can return to social housing.*

- From Arizona
  - Facilities items:  
Semi-annual IACUC Inspection occurred on 4/3/20 which included the use of an ad hoc consultant. No significant deficiencies noted.
  - Adverse events: No adverse events to report.

**Other Business**

- COVID-19 Q & A
  - *After the AV report, the IACUC had no questions regarding COVID-19 impacts to the animal care and use program.*
- IBC Overview – SL
  - *SL updated the IACUC on IBC approvals and handling of coronavirus. SL emphasized that any live virus work must be done in ABSL-3 spaces, and there are strict verifications for inactive virus before samples can be taken out of ABSL-3 spaces.*

**Closing Business:**

The Meeting was brought to a close at 3:02 pm. The floor was opened to public comment.