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1993-1994

ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

IN THE

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR LABORATORY ANIMAL SCIENCE

Presented to the
Interagency Research Animal Committee
April 27, 1994

John VandeBerg, Chairman
John Hearn, Chairman International Subcommittee
Thomas L. Wolfle, Program Director
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Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources
Commission on Life Sciences
National Research Council
National Academy of Sciences

Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources
Annual Report
1993-1994

International Activities
International Council for Laboratory Animal Science

Presented to the
Interagency Research Animal Committee
April 27, 1994

HISTORY

In late 1987, the Interagency Research Animal Committee (IRAC) requested that the Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources (ILAR), National Research Council (NRC), National Academy of Sciences, reestablish U.S. national membership in the International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS). This was accomplished in 1988, with the support of IRAC-member agencies NIH, DOD, and NSF. Since that time, ILAR has served as the U.S. National Member and has paid annual dues of $6,400 for the United States. In January 1989, in consultation with IRAC, the ILAR Council (roster included as Attachment I) developed a Statement of Task, which was approved by IRAC on February 22, 1989; by the Governing Board of the National Research Council on March 6, 1989; and by the Governing Board of ICLAS on April 24, 1990. As part of ILAR's Core Program, the International Activities Program was reapproved on July 17, 1992 by the NRC Governing Board. The Statement of Task (Attachment II) provides guidance to ILAR for its interactions with ICLAS. At its October 1993 and February 1994 meetings, ILAR Council adopted a broader objective for its International Program of which ICLAS continues to play a key role.

1993-1994 ACTIVITIES

ILAR's program is divided, and funded, under two general programs -- core and special project. The core program consists of the activities of ILAR Council, including the programs of the AMGS, *ILAR News*, and International/ICLAS Subcommittees and the developmental activities leading to special projects.

I. INTERNATIONAL COMPONENT OF ILAR'S CORE PROGRAM

The International Council on Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS) is the only world-wide organization whose goal is to foster the humane use of animals in medical research and testing. As such, ILAR Council reaffirmed the importance of continuing to work with ICLAS as the umbrella for the many international activities in which it is involved. In so doing, ILAR will continue to serve as a channel of communication between ICLAS and appropriate U.S. agencies or organizations, including the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS), National Institutes of Health (NIH), U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Fogarty International Center (FIC), and scientific societies, such as the American Physiological Society and Society of Neurosciences. Council also concluded that as a component of the National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences, ILAR should take the opportunity to form strong bilateral activities with countries when such activity would augment U.S. scientific and potential commercial interests in the animal and biomedical sciences. ILAR Council is chaired by John VandeBerg, Scientific Director, Southwest

Foundation for Biomedical Research. The International Activities subcommittee consists of John Hearn (chair), Director, Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center, Christian Abee, and James Glosser (roster--attachment III).

In preparation for this expanded role, members of Council visited the Director, Veterinary Public Health, PAHO, and the Director, FIC in September 1993. The following represents the ILAR Council's objectives and priorities in international activities:

Objectives

ILAR's Mission Statement (Attachment IV) reflects its commitment to producing highly respected documents covering a wide range of scientific issues, including databases in genetic stocks, species specific management guides, guidelines for humane care of animals, and position papers on issues affecting the future of the biological sciences. As such, ILAR is recognized nationally and internationally as an independent, scientific authority in the development of animal sciences in biomedical research.

In partnership with other countries ILAR seeks to address information and educational needs that affect international scientific development. There are a number of issues affecting international scientific development that make such interaction important at this time. These include the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), requiring interchangeable standards for pharmaceuticals, foodstuffs, and equipment; non-tariff trade barriers in the European Community; and population growth. ILAR will seek to analyze and anticipate these developments and inform U.S. scientific interests. Government-industry partnerships are expected to form around new developments in biological databases and

electronic information networks (see National Biological Information Infrastructure, below), and the availability of transgenic animal models. Improvements in the standards of animal sciences can improve the standards of research and contribute to regional self-sufficiency in a period when human populations will be doubling from the present 5 billion to 10 billion in 2020, with most of this increase in the developing countries. It is in the self-interest of these countries to better care for and feed their growing populations with lessening reliance on the U.S. and other developed nations. Finally, a greater knowledge of animal requirements in captivity and in the wild (e.g. wild nonhuman primate populations) will assist in the preservation of biodiversity and of wild genetic stocks on which we depend in the future. ILAR's Laboratory Animal Management series and other reports will serve an expanding need in each of these areas. Also, ILAR's access to members of the National Academy of Sciences and other scientists, both in the U.S. and in the Academies of Science in other countries, place ILAR in a unique position to serve as a liaison between member agencies of the IRAC, and U.S. and foreign scientists.

Implementing Objectives

In order to achieve the goals listed above, ILAR must clearly define policies and priorities and seek partnership with IRAC and other U.S. scientific interests.

Policies

The adopted guiding policies if ILAR's international program, and activities related to these policies are as follows:

- To form a focus and think tank for new developments in international sciences that depend on the use of animals and to promote compatible international standards for animal care and use.

ILAR has sought partnership with PAHO and FIC and welcomes that of IRAC toward this goal. NAFTA and the unification of Western Europe and of Eastern Europe is likely to introduce significant changes to science and trade. The proposal by the International Council on Scientific Unions (ICSU) to develop international guidelines for the care and use of research animals is being carefully monitored by ILAR in harmony with a number of other U.S. scientific societies and associations. The U.S. interests in this area will be conveyed through ILAR's membership in ICLAS.

- To catalyze and assist in the recognition of new scientific opportunities in human health, together with animal resources (e.g. transgenics) required for rapid development.

ILAR's reports, *Standardized Nomenclature for Transgenic Animals* and *Definition, Nomenclature, and Conservation of Rat Strains* (*ILAR News*, 34:4, 1992) have enabled the development of databases of transgenic animals (TBASE, Johns Hopkins University) and adoption of international standards for rat strains.

- Information. To provide high quality information on current topics affecting health research based on the animal sciences.

Examples are the portfolio of ILAR documents, including the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (Guide), *Laboratory Animal Management Series*, *Occupational*

Health and Safety of Personnel in Research Animal Facilities, Psychological Well-being of Nonhuman Primates, and *ILAR News*.

- Education. To foster training, symposia, and fellowships in collaboration with other agencies, where mutual objectives coincide.

See discussion of recent workshops on *National Biological Information Infrastructure*, and *Collection and Importation of Biological Material*, below.

- Translation. To make ILAR documents available in the languages represented by our priority interests, with first priority being Spanish.

Initial discussions regarding a Spanish translation of the new revision (seventh edition) of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide)* have been held with PAHO and FIC and with scientists in Japan for a Japanese translation. A prioritization of the need for translations of each new committee report has been initiated through the assistance of PAHO and Latin American scientists.

- Industry. To form partnerships wherever possible with the science-based industries in developing the above objectives, in technology transfer, and in the availability of reagents and assays.

This activity is only beginning and will develop with an issue-specific approach.

- Fund raising. To develop specific plans for the support of ILAR's international

activities in conjunction with other agencies and with industry, as appropriate.

The funding currently provided by IRAC member agencies (NIH/OACU; NSF; and DOD/Army) will leverage this ability to gain additional support to achieve the expanding goals of the International Activities program.

Priorities

Some or all of the above activities will be considered for the geographic areas in the following priority list:

1. The American Regions. Commencing with Mexico, and then other Caribbean, Central, and South American countries, the highest priority is to develop databases of scientific societies, including members of the respective National Academies of Science, scientific laboratories, and individual scientists to serve as liaisons. Issues surrounding CITES and permitting procedures are also important for the American region. Sources related to NAFTA, World Health Organization and PAHO, USAID and FIC will be key to this success. Translation and distribution of ILAR reports will be central to this activity but other English training and educational materials (e.g. Purina and AALAS Laboratory Animal Science training manuals) will be considered. Plans are being developed for inviting representatives from several countries in the region to meet the ILAR Council in order to facilitate initiation of this activity.

2. Canada. Within the development of NAFTA, ILAR will seek closer relations with

the Canadian Council on Animal Care, the Medical Research Council, and other institutions and individuals. Realizing that there are many excellent scientific collaborations between U.S. and Canadian scientists, ILAR will seek to catalyze the development of a response strategy to help neutralize future problems or assist Latin American countries, if requested. As part of this strategy, ILAR is prepared to invite Canadian and Latin American scientists to participate in U.S. national activities and the organization of scientific exchanges that may develop new scientific opportunities.

3. U.S./Japan Non-energy Agreement. ILAR participation in this NIH/Japan agreement for 19 years has led to the joint production of some significant publications, including the *Manual for the Diagnosis of Murine Viruses*, adoption of the recommendations of the *Transgenic* and *Rat Conservation and Nomenclature* reports, and reemphasis of the ICLAS Regional Monitoring Centers.

4. Europe. Rather unpredictable developments in Europe, affected by the recent General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) talks, may lead to the development of non-tariff trade barriers. ILAR will seek to develop contacts with those in government, industry, and science who can provide early information concerning new regulations in the animal sciences, drug and food testing protocols, and the import and export of animals or their products. (See also the discussion below of a recent ILAR Workshop, *Collection and Importation of Biological Material,* which led to a U.S. CITES Management Authority initiative for the 1994 CITES Committee of the Parties meeting.)

While not a geographic priority, the need for development of a means for **rapid communication** cuts across each of the above areas. ILAR recently conducted a workshop that led to recommendations to make ILAR's Animal Models and Genetic Stocks database available on-line and to provide guidance for the many other existing or developing biological databases. What is needed is not just a directory of databases available, but a manual on access requirements and instructions (see discussion below). In addition, ILAR is seeking to develop bulletin boards and electronic discussion groups in the animal sciences that could greatly accelerate the exchange of information and access. Electronic mail facilities are vital to ensure the participation of developing countries. Electronic mail capability, in itself, will open collaborative scientific and trade opportunities because of increased communication, efficiency, and user-friendliness. A Gopher file server system may be a good option for providing this information.

ILAR's quarterly journal, *ILAR News*, is an excellent forum for fostering global dialogue about animal care, management, and use. A significant portion of *ILAR News* subscribers--more than fifteen percent--are from countries outside the U.S., representing every continent. *ILAR News* has featured authors from Czechoslovakia, The Netherlands, Japan, and Canada in the past several years. In 1993, *ILAR News* and the ILAR International Subcommittee collaborated on an edition of the journal that will focus on international issues, including articles from investigators, regulators, and administrators from various countries, a bibliography, and a resource list. The international issue is planned for spring 1995. The international subcommittee will also periodically publish brief updates of its activities in *ILAR News*.

The above discussion suggests a starting point, but does not exclude bilateral scientific links with other Asian and Pacific Rim countries where rapid developments in animal science and resources are being made. The International Council of Laboratory Animal Science will continue to serve as the umbrella for many of these activities. Dr. Steven Pakes, former Chairman of ILAR Council and U.S. National Member of ICLAS, during which tenure he was elected to the ICLAS Board of Directors, has agreed to serve as ILAR's link to ICLAS and advise the Council Subcommittee on International Activities in this capacity. Dr. Pakes' report of the June 6-8, 1993 ICLAS meeting held in Brighton, England is included as Attachment V.

II. SPECIAL PROJECTS

ILAR's special projects represent the second primary focus of ILAR's activity. These projects are requested and funded by sponsoring agencies and normally result in published NRC reports written by NRC-appointed committees. Although supported independently from ICLAS and core activities, special projects represent many of the activities for which ILAR is best known and that provide many of the educational and training materials requested by other countries. Following is a list of these activities, including a summary of accomplishments during 1993 in each and plans for the future.

Revision of the *Guide for Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (*Guide*).

The current edition of ILAR's best known report was last published in 1985. The normal 4-5 year revision cycle was delayed due to the 1985 passage of amendments to the

Animal Welfare Act and the Health Extension Act of 1985. It was considered desirable to delay revision until the strengths and weaknesses of the regulations promulgated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Public Health Service, respectively, were evaluated. Following recommendations of an advisory panel meeting in 1992, proposals were developed and submitted to NIH and other federal agencies for development of the seventh edition. In 1993, a grant was awarded from NIH as lead agency and the committee was appointed.

One of the first tasks of this committee (roster--Attachment VI) was to hold public meetings to gather information from members of the public, scientists, veterinarians, scientific associations, and animal protection organizations. Two public meetings were held in 1993- at the national meeting of the American Association of Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) in Nashville, Tennessee and at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C. Four other public meetings were held in early 1994--in San Francisco, St. Louis, and at the Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research (PRIM&R) and Applied Research Ethics National Association (ARENA) meetings in Boston.

At the October 1993 meeting in Washington, D.C., several presenters asked that ILAR appoint an additional member who could represent the views of the public. In response to this request, ILAR consulted with scientists, members of humane societies, and the senior management of the NRC and concluded that an additional public member could make a valuable contribution. After receiving numerous recommendations, Mrs. Jo Ann Steggerda, community representative on the University of Illinois Laboratory Animal Care Advisory Committee, was appointed. She is a member of her local humane society and participates in numerous organizations devoted to conservation and human health.

The seventh edition of the *Guide* is expected to be published in mid-1995.

Laboratory Animal Management Series

As companions to the *Guide*, ILAR committees extensively revised two species-specific reports in the *Laboratory Animal Management* series (Rosters--Attachments VII and VIII). *Rodents: Laboratory Animal Management* revises and combines three earlier reports, *Laboratory Animal Management: Rodents* (1977); *Laboratory Animal Management: Genetics* (1979); and *Long-Term Holding of Laboratory Rodents* (1976). *Dogs: Laboratory Animal Management* revises a 1973 report entitled *Dogs: Standards and Guidelines for the Breeding, Care, and Management of Laboratory Animals* and includes a new section on care and management of dogs characterized for specific research protocols. Both reports will be published by the National Academy Press by summer 1994.

Plans were initiated in 1993 to revise three other Laboratory Animal Management reports on nonhuman primates, swine, and ruminants. Proposals have been prepared for these reports. Committees will be appointed and the revisions will begin when funding is obtained.

The selection and prioritization of these and other ILAR committee reports originates with ILAR Council and represents one area in which core supported activities (Council) merge with special projects.

Occupational Health and Safety of Personnel in Research Animal Facilities

At the request of IRAC and with the leadership of the NIH, National Center for

Research Resources, a committee with expertise in occupational health and safety will provide detailed recommendations for institutional programs on occupational health and safety, as required by the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (PHS Policy–as mandated by the Health Research Extension Act of 1985), the *Guide*, and the American Association for Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care. The committee (roster--Attachment IX) convened five times in 1993, and the report is being prepared for NRC peer review. The report, cosponsored by multiple federal agencies and pharmaceutical companies, is scheduled for publication in the fall of 1994.

Key sections of the report will address zoonotic diseases transmissible from animals to humans; essential institutional policies, responsibilities, and authorities; allergies to animals; safety assessment; employees' serum banking and routine physical examinations; and recommendations for determining whether, for whom, and how often procedures should be performed.

Psychological Well-being of Nonhuman Primates

Mandated by the Animal Welfare Regulations, nonhuman primates bred, maintained, or used for research, testing, education, and exhibition must be provided a physical environment suitable to enhance their psychological well-being. At the request of the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, an NRC-appointed committee began work in 1992 to prepare recommendations for compliance with this requirement (roster--Attachment X). During 1993, seven drafts of the report were prepared, which is nearing completion for submission for NRC peer review. The report is scheduled

for publication by the National Academy Press in the summer of 1994.

The committee will provide readers with a structure by which to develop a functional psychological well-being program. It will provide strategies for animal care personnel to use in developing enrichment techniques, for animal care and use committees and veterinarians to use in assessing compliance with federal requirements, and for animal welfare inspectors and site visitors to use in assessing the success of the program in achieving the goals of well-being. The recommendations will not provide prescriptive blueprints of a program that can be transported to many institutions. Variations among species; among individuals of a species; and among research institutions, zoos, and research goals are discussed and provide the basis for recommending performance assessment and professional judgement.

Should the appeal of a pending lawsuit to overturn current Animal Welfare Regulation be rejected, the committee's report will be available for U.S. Department of Agriculture's consideration in rewriting the standards. If the existing regulations stand, the committee's report will provide guidelines by which each institution can develop thoughtful programs for each animal in the facility. Unlike a single engineering standard used for all animals, even those of a single species, the committee's report will provide the background and basis by which each institution can tailor well-being plans to meet its needs while ensuring the well-being of each animal. Of equal importance, the report will enable site visitors, federal inspectors, and members of the public to be able to assess the adequacy of the institutional plan in fulfilling its goal.

Workshop on Biological Resource Databases.

The rapid growth of biological resource databases is providing a major new research resource for life scientists in disciplines ranging from molecular genetics to landscape ecology. At the same time, questions and concerns are growing about such issues as access to databases, custodianship, and integration. A coherent national strategy is needed to address these issues in a timely fashion so that this major new component of our research infrastructure can develop smoothly and effectively.

To discuss whether an NRC study could assist in instituting such a strategy, ILAR held a workshop on January 6-7, 1994. The workshop participants were asked to consider whether the NRC should establish a committee to develop a plan for a **National Biological Information Infrastructure** that will make key databases comparable and easily accessible to the international scientific community.

It was the consensus of the workshop that the NRC should establish a committee of experts from pertinent areas of biological research (e.g., genetics, structural biology, developmental biology, systematics, and ecology), computer sciences and management to address the following issues:

- **What is available and what is needed?** To enhance the availability of community resource databases both within and outside biology, the committee will examine what databases currently exist, who needs access to databases, what kinds of information are needed, what is required to provide that information (e.g., core databases that support multidisciplinary research areas and appropriate client-driven software), how long access to

the databases will be needed, and how information in databases relates to that in the scientific literature.

- **How should a national information infrastructure be structured and how should it function?** The committee will address methods for integrating and coordinating biological resource databases; it will not at first consider databases such as meteorological, radiological, and geological databases, that might be relevant to biological studies but whose main focus is not biological information. It will also propose a plan for a national information infrastructure that will make data easily accessible to the scientific community. It will consider a federated approach and other alternatives. A discussion of the role of professional societies, major research facilities, individual scientists, and other appropriate participants will be an important part of any plan if the needs of the scientific community are to be met. The plan must also include criteria for adding new databases to the infrastructure and for dealing with new technology.

- **How should the national information infrastructure be implemented, funded, and managed?** The committee will make recommendations about such matters as a timeline for putting components of the plan into place and into practice, quality control measures to ensure adequate evaluation of components of a database, measures for ensuring adequate funding; procedures for identifying areas of need and for obtaining those needs; and criteria for use in developing new databases, evaluating database management, and deciding when and how best to terminate or archive a database.

The workshop participants were also asked to consider the ILAR AMGS database.

They recommended that the AMGS database should become an accessible part of the biological information infrastructure and that ILAR should undertake the following:

- update the present AMGS information on animal models and genetic stocks;
- expand the database to include international sources and to include more extensive descriptions of animal models;
- develop and make available the updated AMGS data as a user-friendly, on-line computer database using an already existing on-line database, such as GBASE.
- make TBASE (a database of transgenic animals and animals with targeted mutations) and the NIH Genetic Resource database (a database of inbred, mutant, and congenic strains of mice and rats maintained in the resource) available on-line through the AMGS database program;
- make the Registry of Laboratory Codes available on-line and develop it in a way that allows users to assign their own codes, with review by ILAR staff;
- include in the database a listing and source of ILAR and other relevant publications on animal care and on genetic stocks;
- establish and maintain a bulletin board to facilitate communication between users and between users and ILAR staff (e.g., requesting information not in the database, identifying new and novel stocks, making comments on specific animal models, advertising the availability of colonies that are about to be disbanded);
- publish annually a printed summary from the AMGS database for users without computer or Internet capability.

- track the log-ins to the database and bulletin board for assessment of use and future remodelling of the service; and
- advertise the availability and mechanism of access of the database.

Workshop on Collection and Importation of Biological Material, Animals, and Plants

Rules and regulations governing the collection, importation, and movement of biological materials across state and international boundaries have become increasingly complex and time consuming. Achieving compliance has become a serious concern for both investigators in a variety of scientific disciplines and for agency personnel who administer the regulations. Many investigators are only generally informed about the regulations, and the majority of the public is totally unaware of them. Regulating agencies recognize the cost and difficulty of compliance but have limited resources by which to improve the permitting process.

To discuss the impact of these policies and regulations and to make recommendations for further NRC involvement, ILAR organized a workshop, held March 16-17, 1994, of scientists and administrators concerned with *obtaining* permits and scientists and administrators concerned with *granting* permits. There were presentations from the representatives of the pharmaceutical industry, field biologists, and representatives of agencies concerned with permitting. Customs issues and packaging issues were discussed. After the presentations, three smaller working groups met to discuss the permitting process, current policies and regulations, and the scientific basis for the regulations.

These issues are of interest to regulatory agencies and to public and private institutions.

Regulations administered by the Department of Commerce, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration; Department of Health and Human Services/Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service; the Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, National Center for Import/Export; and Department of Treasury, Customs Service have authority over some aspect of these issues. Regulated entities whose activities may come under the jurisdiction of one or more of these agencies include biomedical and zoological institutions; natural history museums; biology, zoology, and botany departments in academic institutions; pharmaceutical firms; and conservation organizations.

The consensus of the workshop was that the NRC be asked to form a study committee and a forum, both composed of scientists, regulators, scientific societies, and members of the public. The committee would be asked to study the permitting process and address the following:

- managing resources including personnel training and retention;
- simplifying and harmonizing regulations, redesigning application forms, and exploring the federal regulatory process to enhance interaction among scientists, the public, and agency personnel when writing regulations;
- educating both scientists and personnel who grant permits about permitting requirements; educating scientists on the opportunities presented by notices in the Federal Register;
- electronically distributing educational material and permit forms, such as by a

telephone menu driven fax system, an on-line query database, or ultimately creating a central electronic clearinghouse; and

- implementing procedures at local, state, federal, and international levels that would facilitate opportunistic collection.

The **forum**, convened periodically, would be asked to discuss:

- agency policies and permitting practices;
- form design; and
- specific topics for in depth study by separate NRC-appointed committees.

A Workshop to Examine the Appropriate Use of Animals and Their Alternatives in Education

A project of high priority for the NRC is one that examines the merits of the use of animals and their alternatives to enhance the precollege educational experience of students. A larger three-report version of this study was approved previously by the NRC, but failed to materialize due to lack of funding. This refocused study is being proposed as a three-day workshop in which an NRC-appointed committee will define the objectives of animal use, examine proper treatment of animals by students and teachers, and develop two reports. The first report will be a technical document that reflects the workshop's discussions. The second will be a summary document for lay audiences. The two reports will be of interest to teachers at the K-12 levels; school administrators; science supervisors; local, state, and

federal officials and agencies; parents; and professional societies. Funds have been budgeted to cover the costs of production, printing and distribution of 2,000 copies of the workshop's technical summary and 50,000 copies of the summary report. Fundraising for the project is continuing.

Special Project Plans for 1994-95

Four reports discussed above will be published in 1994 (1) *Occupational Health and Safety of Personnel in Research Animal Facilities*, (2) *Psychological Well-being of Nonhuman Primates*, (3) *Dogs: Laboratory Animal Management Series*, and (4) *Rodents: Laboratory Animal Management Series*. The seventh edition of the *Guide* will be published in 1995.

The **National Biological Information Infrastructure** project has been approved by the NRC Governing Board and will be developed and initiated in 1994 pending sponsorship. Pending NRC approval and agency funding, a committee and a forum as recommended by the workshop on **Collection and Importation of Biological Material, Animals, and Plants** will be established.

The application of transgenic technologies to animals is having a major impact on society and has caused many concerns in relation to risks, benefits, and ethical issues. ILAR plans on organizing a conference on *Transgenic Animals: Benefits and Risks* as one of a series of conferences in the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Conference Series (The Arnold and Mabel Beckman Center, in Irvine, California is one of the National Academy of Sciences' study centers). Approximately 12-15 scientists will be invited to make presentations to

prepare a white-paper report for dissemination to the media, the Congress, and the public. The report is intended to convey information and perspective to the public and to Congress. Following the publication of *Standardized Nomenclature for Transgenic Animals* (*ILAR News*, 34:4, 1992) this conference proposes to explore the ethical and public policy issues involved in the development and use of biologically modified organisms.

Also to be further developed in 1994 is a Council-initiated project on *The Future of Biology*. This project recognizes the enormous breadth of today's biology curriculum, from botany to cellular genetics, with a resulting de-emphasis in organismic biology. Attracting students into disciplines they do not understand, explaining the contributions of biology to the public, and developing interdisciplinary research has become increasingly difficult. If approved by the NRC and funded by the desired consortium of federal and private agencies, the goal of the project will be to seek to catalyze the future of biology through identification of risks and opportunities in biology and strengths and weaknesses of current trends. It will address the fragmentation of biology as it adversely affects researchers' ability to conduct interdisciplinary studies, seek ways to "repackage" biology to facilitate interdisciplinary research, address ways in which to improve students' enthusiasm and perceptions about biology in order to capture and sustain the interest of students of all ages; and explore new approaches to communication.

1994-95 BUDGET REQUEST

ILAR requests that IRAC-member agencies continue to support the expanded International Activities program of ILAR and the U.S. National Membership in ICLAS through ILAR. The total estimated cost of these activities for the coming year is $34,850. A formal proposal and budget is being forwarded to the Chairman of IRAC from the Executive Officer of the National Academy of Sciences. The National Science Foundation and the Department of Defense (through the U.S. Army Research and Development Command) have agreed to provide partial funding for this year.

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Attachment II

STATEMENT OF TASK

ILAR will:

- Serve as the U.S. national member of ICLAS, which is concerned with the care and use of laboratory animals worldwide;
- Encourage the education, training, and development of laboratory animal science and the exchange of information between countries for the betterment of animal care;
- Help developing countries improve laboratory animal care and the infrastructure of biomedical research;
- Seek to ensure that national policies of various countries do not become restrictive to the trade of products, developed by animal research in other countries; and
- Monitor laboratory animal availability, use, importation and exportation.

Attachment III

ILAR INTERNATIONAL SUBCOMMITTEE

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Wisconsin Regional Primate
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University of Wisconsin

Christian Abee, D.V.M.
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Attachment IV

ILAR MISSION STATEMENT

The Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources (ILAR) develops guidelines and disseminates information on the scientific, technological, and ethical use of animals and related biological resources in research, testing, and education. ILAR promotes high-quality, humane care of animals and the appropriate use of animals and alternatives. ILAR functions within the mission of the National Academy of Sciences as an advisor to the federal government, the biomedical research community, and the public.

REPORT OF ICLAS MEETING
June 6-8, 1993
Brighton, England
Steven P. Pakes, D.V.M., Ph.D.

The Governing Board (GB) if ICLAS met on June 6-7, and the General Assembly of ICLAS met on June 8.

A. GB Discussions

1. The GB reviewed some issues relating to Council of Europe (CoE) and the European Community (EC). One issue was that of defining a "procedure" on animals. The CoE defines a "procedure" as anything that causes an animal discomfort, suffering, distress or lasting harm. The EC directives relate to the use of animals in testing. Each member country must have animal regulations that are at least as stringent as those of the CoE and EC. At this time, there appear to be no unusual issues in Europe that may impact on the USA. John Hearn may want to comment on this issue because it is quite confusing.

2. An Asia-Pacific International Symposium on Laboratory Animal Science was held October 12-16, 1992 in Beijing, China. A few ICLAS members attended. ICLAS provided modest financial support for the Symposium.

3. The ICLAS Scientific Conference and General Assembly will be held in Helsinki in 1995 as a joint meeting with Fin LAS and Scand LAS. Dr. Pakes is serving on the Scientific Program Steering Committee with Dr. Jean Maisin (Belgium), Dr. Tatsuji Nomura (Japan) and Dr. N. Kariv (Israel). The theme of the program will be the use of laboratory animal models in drug development research. I will be asking the Council's help in the selection of U.S. speakers once we formulate a more precise program.

4. An ICLAS regional meeting will be held in Hyderabad, India on September 13-15, 1994. The theme of the meeting will be "Laboratory Animal Resources Development, Experimentation, and Welfare." Examples of subjects that will be discussed are human resource development, designing animal facilities in tropical counties, transgenic technology, SPF animal production and ethical issues. The ICLAS GB will meet at this meeting. The ICLAS Scholarship Committee will consider providing some financial support for this meeting.

5. An ICLAS working group to develop recommendations for education and training of researchers and their technicians continues to function. The goal is to produce recommendations that can be used internationally. It will be interesting to see the results of their endeavors. I have provided all ILAR materials on this subject to the working group.

6. The ICLAS "Guidelines for the Establishment and Use of Laboratory Animals in Developing Countries" is expected to be available sometime in 1993. I will provide copies to ILAR and others when I receive them.

7. The Scholarship Committee (Dr. Pakes is a member) provided funding for a few selected individuals from underdeveloped (UD) countries to attend technical courses and to send an expert in LAS to present lectures in Argentina. Also the committee provided funds to support the China meeting. As a member of this committee I feel that the funds expended in 1992-93 have, for the most part, been judiciously spent to do the most good for the most people. I do feel that we can and will improve this endeavor.

8. The ICLAS treasurer reported that ICLAS lost some country members and gained some. The 1993-94 annual ICLAS budget identifies about $65,000 income and about $58,000 in expenditures. ICLAS has about $90,000 in reserve. I plan to ask the ILAR Council's help in addressing how funds can be raised to support targeted ICLAS programs, especially those for Mexico, Central and South America. I will do this when specific programs are formulated.

9. Perhaps the most important discussion centered on the most efficient manner for ICLAS to provide assistance to UD countries. At the recommendations of representatives of the Americas, it was decided that the best approach may be regionalizing the world, creating a division of effort that would be coordinated: The U.S. and Canada would have primary responsibility for Mexico, Central and South America; Japan (and perhaps Australia) would have responsibility for the Pacific Rim and Southeast Asia; Western Europe would have responsibility for Eastern Europe, Africa and India. This is not to say that an individual or institution from a developed country in any part of the world could not assist UD countries in any part of the world; however, a regionalized plan would provide a more efficient way of providing help to those who require it. In that regard, a Planning Committee for Mexico, Central and South America was instituted in Brighton, composed of me, Jerry Van Hoosier (University of Washington), Iliana Pazos, Ph.D. (Costa Rica and member of ICLAS GB) and Raphael Hernandez, D.V.M. We discussed other individuals in the U.S. and Canada who can provide assistance to this endeavor, the needs of UD countries in the Americas, how such needs may be met, and possible funding sources. I will keep Council informed of programs and will be working with Tom Wolfle and John VandeBerg on the issues on a more timely basis.

B. ICLAS Monitoring Center Program

Dr. Tatsuji Nomura reported on the activities of the ICLAS Monitoring Center conducted at the Central Institute for Experimental Animals, which he heads. The Center continues to be active and is unique in that it is essentially the only laboratory in the world that funds to assist underdeveloped countries. Dr. Pakes will continue to chair the ad hoc Monitoring Center Committee whose charge is to determine what laboratories around the world are willing and able to participate in the program; what tests or support they are able to provide; and what the priority of needs for underdeveloped (UD) countries; and matching needs with resources. Also, the ICLAS GB approved the Rat Nomenclature Committee as part of the ICLAS Reference and Monitoring Center Program.

C. General Assembly

The meeting in Brighton included an extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly to address recommended changes in the Constitution. These recommendations centered on having General Assembly meetings every two years, as opposed to the current schedule of every four years. The GA voted down the recommendation that the GA meet every two years primarily because of the cost. The main issue that some members of the GA were attempting to bring to the table was their feeling that the ICLAS leadership is a "good old boy" network that perpetuates itself, spends funds for travel that should be used to develop needed programs. This point came across at the GA meeting and some of us are looking at ways to change the image of ICLAS and to make it more responsive and productive.

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