

# NZP IACUC MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 9, 2002

In Attendance: Nichols, Smithson, Cusimano, Gibson, Roberts  
Absent: McGill

## Meeting Agenda

- A) Nichols announced that Alison McGill had returned to Scotland and thus would be leaving the committee. McGill has agreed to continue to serve on the committee as best she can through e-mail correspondence (e.g. proposal review) until another outside committee was found
- B) Nichols pointed out that Alex Hawes left NZP earlier in the year and that FONZ had been thus far very reluctant to appoint a replacement member for the IACUC. It was also pointed out that no one had been appointed to be the curatorial member to replace Lisa Stevens, who resigned in the fall of 2000.
- C) There was much discussion among committee members regarding the purpose and function of the IACUC, and the "lack of direction" by the committee during the past year. Specific questions that were brought up included: 1) Does NZP need an IACUC at the Rock Creek facilities? 2) If so, what should the functions of the committee be? 3) Are IACUC inspections of animal areas necessary for animals other than those on projects funded by the Public Health Service? 4) How are research proposals being evaluated for scientific merit? 5) What is the process for routing proposals to the IACUC for approval?  
It was agreed that Roberts and Nichols should try to arrange a meeting in January with the new NZP Deputy Director (Mary Tanner) and Olav Oftedal (CRC IACUC chairman) to discuss these issues.
- D) Smithson suggested that Bob King would be a good person to be the curatorial member on the IACUC; she said that he had already expressed an interest in serving on the committee. Nichols and Roberts agreed to discuss this with Tanner.
- E) There was discussion regarding the difficulty in finding someone to serve as the outside member of the committee. The outside member must have a very flexible schedule to accommodate attendance at meetings and inspections. Committee had a few suggestions for people who might be interested (e.g. Laura Zimmitti, Bill Xanten, Angelo Russo). Roberts volunteered to contact SCAW (Scientists Concerned for Animal Welfare) to see if this group had any suggestions for the outside member. It was agreed that the selection of an outside member would also be discussed with Tanner.
- F) Nichols briefly discussed the issue of feral cats trapped at NZP. The old policy was that the cats were turned over to DC Animal Control. A new policy is being developed where the cats will be turned over to local humane societies. Committee members agreed that this new policy appeared to be better for the welfare of the cats and the NZP public relations.

Meeting adjourned.