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## **INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE (ACUC)**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE CHAIR: STEVE WYKSTRA

### **A. Major issues addressed by the committee during the 2010–2011 year**

1. This year we welcomed Dr. Joan Koelzer to the committee. Dr. Koelzer Daniel Hoekema as the veterinarian on our committee; her experience with animal care and use committees and federal regulations has been invaluable for our committee.
2. The committee received and approved three animal use requests for wildlife research by faculty and students.
3. The committee adopted a new format for animal use requests, replacing the old form with a new one that adapts the same animal use request form used by West Michigan Regional Laboratories. It also wrote an instruction sheet for filling in the form, and revised its web page so as to advise potential researchers on the correct procedure for submitting animal use requests to WMRL or the Calvin ACUC. (Special thanks to Randall DeJong for his yeoman's service on these tasks.)
4. The committee accompanied WMRL staff in an inspection of the WMRL facilities in DeVries Hall.
5. The committee sat in on a IACUC meeting of WMRL, and invited Dr. Rich Nyhof to join us in our own committee meeting, at which we arrived at a better understanding of the history of the relationship between Calvin's ACUC and the IACUC of the West Michigan Regional Lab.
6. The committee has formulated a revised version of the mandate of Calvin's ACUC that reflects the division of labor between WMRL's IACUC and the Calvin College committee.
7. The committee has, with the help of Professor Nyhof, gotten a clearer picture of the history of the current division of labor between Calvin College and West Michigan Regional Laboratory, and the implications of this for the work of Calvin's ACUC. The committee has agreed on the need for, and is currently revising a draft proposal for, a Memorandum of Understanding between Calvin College and West Michigan Regional Laboratory that articulates a formal agreement reflecting the de facto division of labor between the two committees, putting this in the context of the federal requirements for institutional animal care and use committees, and the evolution of Calvin's current relationship with WMRL.

### **B. Actions the committee brought before Faculty Senate (if any)**

None

### **C. Other actions, not involving Faculty Senate, that the committee initiated or implemented**

Adoption of a new form for animal use requests

**D. Issues that will continue to be before the committee next year**

1. We will complete the revised mandate for the Committee, as well as a proposal for a Memorandum of Understanding between the animal care and use committees of Calvin College and West Michigan Regional Laboratory that reflects the de facto division of labor between these two committees. We will also continue to educate ourselves on the relevant expectations of the Public Health Service and United States Department of Agriculture that are applicable to an animal care and use committee for an institution that, for the time being, neither requires nor maintains its own Assurance status.
2. The committee will continue to process new animal-use requests. We will continue to educate ourselves on USDA and NIH guidelines for institutional use and care of animals, with special attention to the two classes of animal research that come under the purview of the Calvin ACUC committee.