

INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC)
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD
9001 Stockdale Highway, Bakersfield, CA 93311-1099

MINUTES OF MEETING
15 June 2001
Stockdale Room/Runner Café

Members Present:

Veterinarian: Mylon Filkins, DVM
Scientific Concerns: Kenneth Gobalet, David Germano, Steve Suter
Non-Scientific Concerns: Andrew Troupe, Jane Granskog
Community Issues: Debbie Kroeger
Safety/Hazardous Materials: Barbara Brenner

Members Absent:

Non-Scientific Concerns: Martin Murdock

Visitors: Todd McBride for Renewal of Protocol 98-07 and new Protocol 01-01
Janice Chavez, Interim Dean, Graduate Studies and Research
Carol Raupp, Professor of Psychology

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Chair Steve Suter at 1:00 PM.
2. **Announcements:** The Chair announced the followed impending personnel changes:

Ginger LeBlanc is replacing Jess Deegan as Animal Facility Director.
Steve Suter has been reappointed as Research Ethics Review Coordinator for 2001-2002.
Todd McBride is replacing Ken Gobalet on the IACUC Board.
Janice Chavez is replacing David Ost as Interim Dean, Graduate Studies and Research.
3. **Minutes:**

Granskog moved, and Filkins seconded, a motion to approve the minutes for the meeting of 19 January 2001. The motion was passed unanimously, with 7 “yes,” 0 “no,” and 0 “abstentions.”
4. **Old Business:**
 - a. Discussion of bi-annual evaluation of animal care and use program and inspection of facilities.

The Chair summarized the report and asked for discussion. There were several suggestions about placement of a new water heater, including in the colony room itself.
 - b. Relationship of IACUC and FACT.

Debbie Kroeger and Steve Suter will collect information from other universities over the summer, coordinate with David Germano, and make recommendations.

5. New Business:

- a. Board permission for impending protocol closures:

None will expire prior to the September 2001 meeting.

- b. Discussion of request for protocol renewal:

98-07 (T. McBride) "The Role of Stretch Activated Ion Channels in the Long Term Adaptation of Striated Muscle to Active Muscle Lengthening" (to expire June/2001)

Dr. McBride provided a brief summary, indicating that this research, funded by the American Heart Association, deals with the effects of load on skeletal muscle stretch activated ion channels, focusing on plasticity, with possible implications for heart muscle pathology. The grant has been renewed and data collection is about halfway completed. An NIH grant has been submitted with a modified protocol involving a treadmill procedure. A dialog followed:

Q: Is anesthesia 50 or 60 mg/kg? It was suggested that the actual values of ketamine and rompum be specified. A: It's 50 and investigator will add the latter specification.

Q: How are student assistants trained. A: By the investigator. Only a couple of students are involved. It was agreed that the LeBlanc training materials should be made available to the Biology Department.

Q: What is the pulley procedure? Have there been accidents? A: Procedure was described. Has been carried out thousands of times without mishap; used in many other research labs.

Q: Describe the treadmill. A: Is a small version of a human treadmill with four lanes. Rats run naturally and if a rat did not it would be excluded.

Q: It was noted that the timeline given was from the old proposal and needed updating.

Q: How many animals have been used? Could there be any sharing to minimize the numbers of animals? A: About 40. Sharing is not possible for this protocol but could for pilot work.

Q: Are there multiple measurements over sessions? A: Only for the exercise, not the muscle measurement. Both treadmill and pulley procedures are done without anesthesia in humans.

When there were no additional questions, the investigators and visitors were excused.

Mylon Filkins moved and Jane Granskog seconded, a motion to renew protocol 98-07 for one year with the understanding that ketamine and rompum values would be specified via FAX to Dr. Filkins. The motion was passed unanimously, with 7 "yes," 0 "no," and 0 "abstentions."

- c. Discussion of new protocol:

01-01 (T. McBride) "Use of Bullfrogs for Nerve Recordings in Lab Courses"

Dr. McBride noted that a new upper division biology course on physiological measurement would be taught Fall/01. The protocol involves sciatic nerve recordings in double-pithed bullfrogs.

Q: What is the double pithing procedure? A: A sharp instrument is used to destroy the brain and spinal cord.

Q: Is it painful? A: Don't know. Filkins noted that it is an accepted euthanasia technique for such species and suggested that pain may be limited to skin penetration.

Q: Why do the pithing if the animal is going to be euthanized with KCl? A: Pithing is needed in order to preserve the condition of muscle and nerves.

Q: Why frogs? A: It's easy to get the sciatic nerves out.

Q: Is it universally agreed that there is no suffering. A: No. However the procedure is very widely used.

Q: Can a person do a poor job pithing? A: Definitely. No students will do pithing.

Q: How many frogs will be used. A: Only a few; will have two students per frog.

Q: How will the frogs be transported? A: In styrofoam cartons. Anticipates no mortality. Frogs can go weeks without eating.

Q: Have you searched for non-animal alternatives? A: Yes. Software simulations might be useful in lower division labs, but not upper division.

Q: Could something be substituted for the actual nerve? A: Can't do that because of the variables to be studied. Actual tissue is needed. Filkins argued the necessity of experience with real animals to adequately train students in the clinical setting.

Q: Are there other uses for the frogs? A: There will be time for only one experiment, but the bodies will be used for dissection.

Q: Could unwanted frogs simply be captured from the FACT pond. A: Too hard to catch; perhaps danger to students thrashing around after frogs.

When there were no additional questions, the investigators and visitors were excused.

Jane Granskog moved and David Germano seconded, a motion to approve protocol 01-01. The motion was passed unanimously, with 8 "yes," 0 "no," and 0 "abstentions."

6. Areas Of Concern

There were no new areas of concern.

7. Next Meeting:

Friday, 28 September, 2001 - "Old Pub"

12:30 p.m. - Lunch

1:00 p.m. - Meeting

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Steve Suter adjourned the meeting at 2:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Suter, Ph.D.
Secretary for the IACUC