



Texas Branch
American Association for Laboratory Animal Science

Jan/Feb 2012

Texas Branch Newsletter

The Newsletter for the
Texas Branch AALAS
Membership

www.tbaalas.org

Inside this issue:

The President's Message

Brian Gillman



November is here and the cooler days have arrived, what a relief from this past summer. As I sit on my back porch this cool morning writing this message, I get the opportunity to reflect on how lucky I have been to work and serve with such great people. Thanks to all of you that stepped up and helped our friends in the Bastrop and Smithville area after the devastating fires this past summer. You all are an amazing group of people that inspire me daily. What a blessed life!

The National AALAS Meeting has come and gone with another record setting year in attendance with over 4900 individuals at the meeting in San Diego. Texas was again able to send two representatives, Jennifer Volkmann and Angie Hathaway, to the Leadership Academy this year in San Diego with hopes that they will become future leaders in our organization. With budget cuts and travel restrictions, we always worry about the success of each meeting, but it seems that every year dedicated individuals figure out a way to attend and contribute to our meetings. I hope the same continues for the 50th Annual TBAALAS Meeting in College Station.

The 50th Annual Texas Branch AALAS meeting is quickly approaching and although the Board has been hard at work on the meeting program, we need your input. We are in need of abstracts now! We have a great Keynote Speaker already lined up and several topics have been requested by you the membership. We are looking at roundtable discussions on rodent behavior, shipping and receiving, enrichment and have several historical presentations in the works. If you have any ideas or presentations, please contact Lindsay Holmes, Program Chair.

In this edition, there is a call for nominations for upcoming Board positions. Please consider serving this organization, you will find it fun and rewarding. Nominations are due by December 1st, 2011. This year we are considering moving towards an on-line election process that is a simpler, less expensive and more accurate system for elections. With that being said, it will be vital for each member to make sure that your membership information is up-to-date in our database. If you are interested, please contact any Board or committee member for information. We always have room for you on a committee somewhere!

Look inside this newsletter for all the important information regarding this meeting. I have asked all the committee chairs and Board members to give you as much preliminary information as possible about what is being planned. Abstract submission forms, vendor information and Award Nomination forms are available now at www.tbaalas.org. Please check out the new TBAALAS Calendar that can be purchased for \$30 with all the proceeds benefiting TBAALAS at our website.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will be well into the holiday season and I sincerely hope that you and your families have a wonderful holiday season. I look forward to seeing you all in College Station next spring for the 50th Annual TBAALAS Meeting and thank you for letting me serve as your President.

Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving and a Joyous Holiday Season, Brian

Brian

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Check out
www.tbaalas.org !
History
TBAALAS Today
Links
Jobs
Awards
Meetings
Join Us!

ELECTED OFFICERS

President

Brian Gillman RLATG
bgillman@pharmacal.com
203 233-1563

Past President

Andy Pesek BS RLATG
CMAR
atpesek@mdanderson.org

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Robert Rose, DVM, MS,
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Robert.Rose@AlconLabs.com
817-551-4562

Secretary

Karen Montijo, MBA, RLATG,
CMAR
karen.montijo@crl.com

Treasurer

Pat Sikes, MS
Patricia.sikes@crl.com

Board Members

Kelly Campbell, RLATG
Kelly.M.Campbell@rice.edu

Angie Hitt

arhitt@swmail.sw.org

Summer Boyd, MS, RLATG,
RVT
sboyd@bcm.edu

Luis Zorrilla

luis.zorrilla@utsa.edu

District 7 Trustees

Cindy Buckmaster, PhD,
RLATG, CMAR
buckmast@bcm.edu

Awards

Teresa Neubauer RLATG,
CMAR
neubauer@bcm.tmc.edu

Mona Jaffari, RLAT
mjaffari@mdanderson.org

Commercial Liaison

Rusty Thomas
rthomas@labproductsinc.com
Jason Raynor, co-chair, 2012
jhraynor@labsupplytx.com

Parliamentarian

Lane Watkins, RLATG
L Watkins@mdanderson.org

Historian

Stacy LeBlanc MS, MBA, CMAR
sleblanc@mdanderson.org

Legislative

Kelly Garner, MBA
Kelly.n.garner@uth.tmc.edu

Membership

Belinda Proctor, LATG
bproctor@lexgen.com
Ana Sanchez, Co-Chair

Nominations/Elections

Ryan Byrd
rbyrd@vprmail.tamu.edu

Publications

Carrie Schultz, Ph.D.
clschultz@testdiet.com

Technician Branch Rep.

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Long Range Planning

Andy Pesek
atpesek@mdanderson.org

Program 2012

Lindsay Holmes
lsholmes@mdanderson.org
Cris Torres, Ph.D., co-chair

Cris.Torres@alconlabs.com

Education and Training

Amy Boyd, LATG
Amy.Boyd@Alconlabs.com

ALL Coordinator

Pamela Huskey
pshuskey@mdanderson.org
all@tbaalas.org

Metro Coordinators

Houston/Galveston

Belinda Rivera, BS, RVT, RLATG,
CMAR
berivera@utmb.edu

Jeanette Bicknell, LATG, CMAR
jeanette@vivarium-solutions.com
281-757-0638

San Antonio

Laurie Long
Laurie.long@utsa.edu
210-458-6692

Central

Ryan Byrd
rbyrd@vprmail.tamu.edu

Dallas/Ft. Worth

Erin Slay, BS, RLATG
erin.slay@utsouthwestern.edu

West Texas

Oscar Sanchez
osanchez@utep.edu
Patrick Allgood
patrick.allgood@ttuhsc.edu

Web Master

John Donaho, BS
jcdonaho@utmb.org

Co-Chair

Cordelia Rasa
rasa@uthscsa.edu



Please join me in either welcoming or welcoming back the following folks to TBAALAS!

I would like to recognize and thank these new or returning members for being a part of the best branch of AALAS! As you know, TBAALAS is dedicated to the advancement of responsible care and use of laboratory animals through education, training, and information exchange for the benefit of human and animal health Members, I hope that you enjoy and take advantage of the benefits that membership offers, such as reduced registration fees to the annual meetings, access to the AALAS Learning Library (ALL), four newsletters per year, and special access to the branch website, www.tbaalas.org.

**M.D. Anderson
Cancer Center**
Luisa Velez

UTMB - Galveston
Curtis Klages, DVM
Greg Kraft
Vallerie Meador
Diane Roberson
Jason Villano, DVM
DeShawn Thomas

Thermo Fisher Scientific
Jill Berkel
Molly Disney
Tammy Givens

University of Houston
Upton Iva

When visiting the branch website as a member, you will find an abundance of information about the branch, upcoming meetings, job opportunities, awards, and more!



**Call For
Nominations!**



Candidates must be members in good standing.

Positions open this year are:
President-elect
Treasurer



CONGRATULATIONS

*To all of you who have recently
become AALAS certified!*

Alcon Laboratories

Jessica Ford – ALAT
Jessica Fulford – ALAT
Katrina Nicholl-Bayse – LAT
Crystal Rawlings – LAT
Daniel Claunch – LATG

Baylor College of Medicine

Maria Alferez – ALAT
Alicia Mejia – LATG

Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Scott Frey – LATG

Scott and White

Memorial Hospital

Carla Grisham – LATG

SoBran, Inc. at

UT Southwestern Medical Center

Lexi Garcia – ALAT

UT MD Anderson Cancer Center

Silvia Escalante – ALAT
Eli Rodriguez – ALAT

**UT MD Anderson Cancer Center -
Keeling Center**

Raquel Herrera – ALAT
Kaylyn Tinsley – ALAT
Luisa Velez – ALAT



**Each of our newly certified individuals receives a complimentary
one-year TBAALAS membership!**

If you've recently become certified, contact:

Belinda Proctor, LATG - Membership Chairman

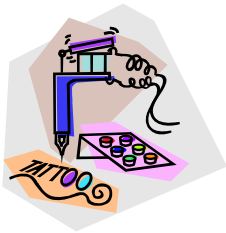




Metro News!!!

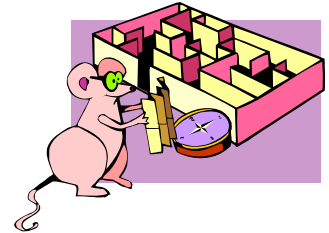
Baylor College of Medicine

Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) Vet Techs participated in monthly Technical Skills Trainings covering retro-orbital, saphenous, and submandibular blood collection techniques.



AIMS came to BCM in July to train BCM Managers, Vets, and Vet Techs how to tattoo animals using their Automated Pigment Delivery System. We were taught how to tattoo adult rodent tails, neonate tails and toes, and rabbit ears. We first tattooed oranges to get the feel of the equipment. After becoming comfortable with the equipment, we learned proper restraint and necessary hand movements. We were then finally able to tattoo live animals!

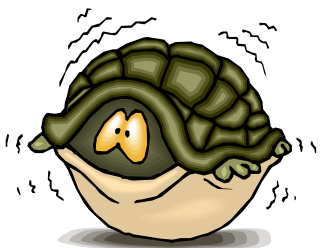
BCM Managers, Vets, and Vet Techs are participating in Charles River's six-part webinar series titled "Working with the Laboratory Rat." Topics include rat health, behavior and enrichment, reproductive biology, health surveillance and quarantine, methods for genetically modified rat production, and colony management and genetic monitoring. We also participated in Charles River's "Blended Learning & Cost-Saving Simulations in Laboratory Animal Training."



The Jackson Laboratory presented their "Reproductive Biology of the Laboratory Mouse" seminar to BCM's CCM in September. We learned mouse reproductive basics such as male and female anatomy, gamete formation, sexing weanlings and adult mice, female estrous cycle, checking for plugs, and troubleshooting breeding challenges.



Much of the lab animal community across the Texas Medical Center participated in Cindy Buckmaster's "Stop Hiding and Change the World" presentation in September. It is an amazing presentation that encourages and empowers the lab animal community to educate the public about how we care for our animals and how much we love them. I highly recommend participating in this presentation if you have the opportunity to do so.





Education and Training!!!

Happenings at UTMD Galveston

Educational events:

Tech Talk – Stop Hiding and Change the World by C. Buckmaster

Charles River webinar – Working with the Laboratory Rat

NABR webinar – Exploring Chapter Three of the New Guide

A visit from Paul McKellips, Executive VP of FBR and author of *Uncaged* gave a dynamic presentation titled RISE UP, meant to empower and educate you on publicly communicating your role in the biomedical research community

Fun stuff:

On Oct. 26th the ARC held their 4th annual Fall bake-off. There were 21 entries and competition was judged on appearance, taste, and presentation. Winners include: DeShawn Thomas, Larry Frost, Sofia Gomez, and Karolynn Niven. Thank you to all the participants and to the judges. Photo of an entry:



Training Opportunities...They're Free!!!

Charles River offers training via webinars and podcasts through "The Source" on their website. All you have to do is register! Visit it and check it out. There is valuable information regarding sentinel monitoring and containing outbreaks in your rodent colonies among many other issues. www.criver.com

Allentown also offers free webinars on their website. Visit www.allentowninc.com



Got a Great Tip for Other Technicians...Submit it for Publication in Tech Talk!

Submitted by Amy Ingraham, Tech Talk Advisory Committee

Technicians! Do you have a tip, a comment, or a thought that belongs in print? Tech Talk offers mentoring if you have never written for publication. We want to make it easier for you to share your knowledge with others in our field. In addition, you get a very nice perk of 4 CEUs per published item applicable towards your Registry credits. Call, write, or e-mail John Farrar (john.farrar@aalas.org) for additional information.

Don't put this one off until later! Haven't you waited long enough?

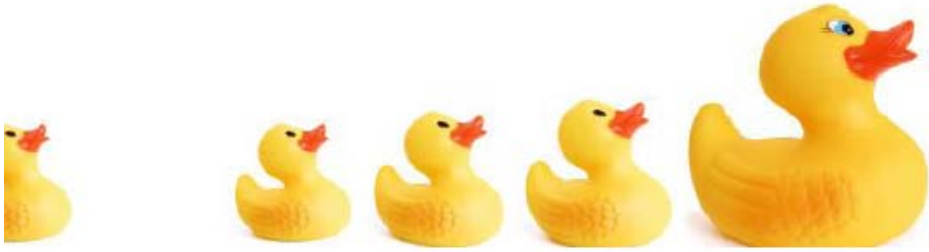
http://www.azaalas.org/Tech_Talk_Instructions.html



Check it Out!!!

Tanya Young with SoBran at UT Southwestern will have an abstract on health baggies introduced to alleviate the load on veterinary technicians while training animal technicians to perform minor topical rodent health treatments during their health checks and cage change-outs.





**DON'T GET
LEFT
BEHIND**

Facilities around the world will celebrate
International Laboratory Animal Technician
Week January 29–February 4, 2012.



The backbone of research.

And for some great ideas, be sure to check out
<http://www.aalas.org/resources/2012techweek.aspx>



Historian's Corner

Have a question about TBAALAS
History and you can't find the answer

Stacy A. LeBlanc, TBAALAS Historian
M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, Veterinary Medicine & Surgery
1515 Holcombe Blvd., Unit 63 · Houston, TX 77030

2012 TBAALAS Member Pet Photo Calendar Fundraiser!

As laboratory animal professionals, it's a well known fact that we LOVE animals. Our love of animals is nowhere more evident than at home with our animal family members. We've received many wonderful TBAALAS member pet photos - dogs, cats, horses, calves, and even a pygmy goat!

Calendars are **\$30** each with proceeds to fund a 50th anniversary meeting giveaway. They make great gifts, too, so order more than 1!

Order yours today online
at www.tbaalas.org!!



We'll celebrate our 50th Anniversary in 2012!

In anticipation of TBAALAS' 50th anniversary in 2012, I'm asking all of you to participate in the celebration.

We're compiling a commemorative book to mark this milestone.

Please send us any past information you may have from our first 50 years!

Documents, photos, letters, newsletters - anything!

sleblanc@mdanderson.org



2012 TBAALAS Meeting



February 29 – March 2
College Station, Texas
Hilton Hotel

Featuring:

Key Note Speaker
Bob Sedlacek
Inventor of the Micro Isolator



Participate in a Wet Lab!

Knots So Fast!

Suturing techniques your Granny never taught you

Mice: Basic Handling and Techniques

Take a Tour!

Texas A&M Institute for Preclinical Studies

See a Presentation

Equipment Maintenance: Logs, Trends & PM Agreements

What's Going On Down There?

A Small Collection of Mouse Mysteries

And all the other possibilities!

Roundtables

Non-Human Primate Enrichment

Current Challenges in Domestic & International Rodent Transfers

Tours

Texas A&M University Wildlife Center



Can't make the entire 2012 TBAALAS Meeting??

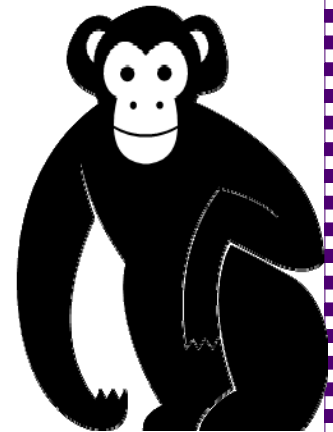
Exciting News!!

You can come for one day for

\$50

(That's half off registration!)

Visit www.tbaalas.org for details



Be On The Lookout

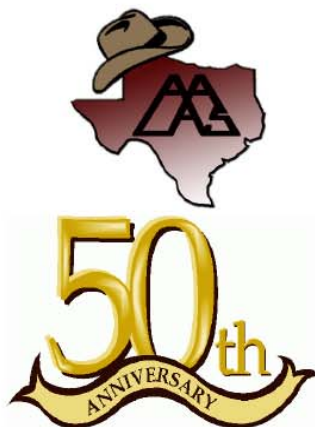
Look for email blasts from
TBAALAS

containing more information about the meeting and exciting announcements about presentations!



**Texas Branch
50th Anniversary Meeting**

**February 29 - March 2, 2012
College Station, Texas**



Questions?

Contact

Lindsay Holmes
713-834-6256
lsholmes@mdanderson.org

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

We're celebrating our 50th Anniversary this year! If you have never made a presentation; this could be your opportunity to break the ice before a supportive and friendly audience. Submit your abstract form, for a paper or poster. Suggested subjects are any techniques, housing arrangements, management tools, special equipment, unique research, personnel and animal enrichment programs, training and education programs, or any other topic associated with Laboratory Animal Science.

Technicians are eligible for presentation awards!

**Submit abstracts
via email to:**

Lindsay Holmes
lsholmes@mdanderson.org

Deadline for abstract submission: November 30, 2011

NOTE: The abstract can be completed electronically & submitted by clicking on the "Submit Completed Abstract by Email" button. BE SURE TO SAVE YOUR COMPLETED ABSTRACT BEFORE SUBMITTING!

Individuals submitting abstracts will be notified of acceptance status by December 31, 2011.

Please observe the following instructions in preparing abstracts.
Only abstracts submitted on this form via email will be accepted.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

1. ALL Platform Presentations should be in MS Power Point format for use on a PC and LCD Projector.
2. Time for each platform presentation is 12 minutes with an additional 3 minutes for questions. Presenters will be notified if the time allotment will be different from this standard.
3. Abstracts shall be limited to no more than 1000 characters (approx 200 words) to include the following:
Statement of the study's objectives, unless stated in the title;
Statement of the methods, if applicable;
Summary of results;
Statement of conclusions. Statement of results only is not acceptable.
4. Capitalize the first letter of each main word in the title.
5. Include the authors' initials and last names only (e.g., J.R. Smith). Following authors' names, include the institutional affiliation and mailing address of the first author. Designate with an asterisk (*) the person who will deliver the presentation. This person's name and address should appear at the top of the abstract form.
6. The text of the abstract shall be a single paragraph. Do not use abbreviations other than g, mg, cm, mm, ml, dl, C, and %. Use generic names, not trade names. Tables are not permitted in the abstract.
7. Only unpublished papers may be presented.
8. Presentations determined to be for the purpose of selling a product will be rejected.



TEXAS BRANCH AALAS ABSTRACT SUBMITTAL FORM



Presenter's Name (including degrees)

Institution

Mailing Address

Phone

Email

Presentations by technical or support personnel are eligible for consideration for Outstanding Presentation and Poster Awards. Veterinarians, Physicians, PhDs/PhD candidates, and Facility Managers are NOT eligible. Address eligibility questions to: TBAALAS Members: Teresa Neubauer, TBAALAS Awards Committee Chair, neubauer@bcm.tmc.edu 713-798-3167

Do you wish to be considered for a Presentation Award?

Yes

No

Title of Presentation

Intended Audience

Veterinarians

Managers

Technicians

Researchers

All

Equipment Needed

Overhead Projector

Other, specify

Format Preference

Platform Presentation

Poster Presentation

No Preference

Abstract must fit in this box and must not exceed 1000 characters (approximately 200 words).

Submit completed

abstract by **11-30-2011** to: Lindsay Holmes lsholmes@mdanderson

Submit Completed
Abstract by Email



TBAALAS Recognition Awards Call For Nominations

It's time to nominate individuals for our Texas Branch AALAS Recognition Awards! These awards recognize our outstanding "silent heroes": our Animal Care Technicians, Animal Health Technologists, Trainers, Environmental Enrichment Technicians, Laboratory and Research Technicians, Supervisors, Managers, Clinical Veterinarians and Vendors. **PLEASE** take this opportunity to recognize and honor those people who really drive your research team!

Technician Recognition Awards – These three awards are sponsored by TBAALAS to recognize outstanding laboratory animal science technicians at various stages of their career. *Each award recipient will receive a plaque, \$100 honorarium and a one-year membership to TBAALAS.*



- Nominations must be submitted by a TBAALAS member.
- Nominees *are not required* to be TBAALAS members.

Qualifications for each level are as follows:

Level I, Rookie: 1-2 years employed

Level II, Non-Supervisor: 2+ years employed, **AALAS certification required.**

Level III, Supervisor: 2+ years employed, **AALAS certification required.**

Allentown Facility Managers Award - Sponsored by Allentown Caging Equipment Company to recognize outstanding managers. *The award recipient will receive a plaque and a \$250 honorarium.*

- Nominations must be submitted by a TBAALAS member.
- Nomination packages must include a letter of nomination, curriculum vitae and two letters of support.

Qualifications are as follows:

Nominees are required to be TBAALAS members.

Must be a "manager", overseeing some aspect of the daily operation of an animal care and use program; e.g., Facility Manager, QA/QC Manager, Health Monitoring Manager, Logistics and Materials Manager, Operations Manager, etc.

AALAS certification required.

Nomination packets must address each of the suggested Award Criteria and include:

A completed Nomination Form

A letter completed by the nominator that addresses the suggested Award Criteria

Letters of support: maximum of three.

Nominations are graded objectively and quantified. Criteria that are not addressed will receive scores of zero.

Please do not overlook nominees who were not selected previously.

SUBMIT NOMINATIONS BY **December 1, 2011** TO:
 Teresa Neubauer, TBAALAS Awards Committee Chairperson
 Baylor College of Medicine
 One Baylor Plaza, BCM - 145
 Houston, TX 77030
neubauer@bcm.edu
 (713) 798-3167



TBAALAS Technician Recognition Award Criteria

Describe positions held in the laboratory animal science (LAS) field.

Responsibilities of employment
Quality of performance
Unique contributions
New or creative ideas

How committed is this candidate to his professional growth; e.g., AALAS certification, attending talks, workshops, meetings, etc.?

Describe experience teaching or mentoring others.

Within your institution
Community outreach (career days, touring groups through facility, etc.)

Comment on the following leadership qualities.

Communication with peers, supervisors and researchers
Teambuilding and motivating others
Promotion of compassionate, responsible animal care

Professional accomplishments

Memberships
Honors and awards
Peer recognition

Other noteworthy accomplishments; e.g., talks, posters, service to local branch or national AALAS, etc.

TBAALAS Allentown Caging Managers Award Criteria

Describe positions held in the laboratory animal science (LAS) field.

Responsibilities of employment
Quality of performance
Unique contributions
New or creative ideas

How committed is this candidate to his professional growth; e.g., AALAS certification, attending talks, workshops, meetings, etc.?

Describe experience teaching or mentoring others.

Within your institution
Community outreach (career days, touring groups through facility, etc.)

Comment on the following leadership qualities.

Communication with staff, peers, and researchers
Teambuilding and motivating others
Promotion of compassionate, responsible animal care

Professional accomplishments

Memberships
Committee service and appointments on branch and national levels
Honors and awards
Peer recognition

Other noteworthy accomplishments; e.g., talks, posters, service to local branch or national AALAS, etc.



at-



TBAALAS Recognition Awards Call For Nominations



Charles River Outstanding Clinical Veterinarian Award - Sponsored by Charles River Laboratories to recognize outstanding Clinical Veterinarians working in Laboratory Animal Medicine. *The award recipient will receive a plaque.*

- This award *excludes* administrative veterinary staff; e.g., Attending Veterinarian, Associate Director, Director, etc.
- Nominations must be submitted by the home institution's Attending Veterinarian or Director.
- Nominations for exemplary service to TBAALAS may only be made by a member of the TBAALAS Board of Directors. A letter from the home institution's Attending Veterinarian or Director acknowledging the nomination must be received for eligibility.
- Letters of support may be from the facility of employment or other animal facilities.



Qualifications are as follows:

- Nominees are required to be TBAALAS members.
- At least 75% of this individual's professional time must be dedicated to clinical laboratory animal medicine.
- Must be a graduate of an AVMA recognized school of veterinary medicine.
- Must be out of school for at least one year.
- Must have been employed as a clinician at the home institution for a minimum of one year.
- Must provide superior clinical performance or have made another contribution of great relevance to the field.

The Helen Jordan Vendor's Award – Sponsored by Dr. Charles A. Montgomery, Jr. to recognize our Allied Trades friends who have, through their support, advanced the TBAALAS goals and purposes of continuing education, training and knowledge exchange. *The award recipient will receive a plaque.*

- Nominations must be submitted by a TBAALAS member.
- Recipients may be awarded only once.
- Letters of support may address relevant volunteer work, in addition to professional involvement.

Qualification: Must be a TBAALAS commercial member for a minimum of 5 years.

Nomination packets must address each of the suggested Award Criteria and include:

- A completed Nomination Form
- A letter completed by the nominator that addresses the suggested Award Criteria
- Letters of support: maximum of three.

Nominations are graded objectively and quantified. Criteria that are not addressed will receive scores of zero. **Please do not overlook nominees who were not selected previously. Update those nomination packets and resubmit if you feel they deserve another opportunity!** Please call Teresa Neubauer if you have questions.



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 Teresa Neubauer, TBAALAS Awards Committee Chairperson
 Baylor College of Medicine
 One Baylor Plaza, BCM - 145
 Houston, TX 77030
neubauer@bcm.edu
 (713) 798-3167



TBAALAS Charles River Outstanding Clinical Veterinarian Award Criteria

Describe experience in Clinical Laboratory Animal Medicine (LAM).

Number of years

Responsibilities of employment

Quality of performance; e.g., LAM knowledge, clinical skills (diagnostic, therapeutic, etc.), surgical skills

Unique contributions

New or creative ideas



Participation in AALAS

Branch level (positions held, presentations, committee service, etc.)

National Level (positions held, presentations, committee service, etc.)

Describe experience teaching or mentoring others.

Within your institution

Community outreach (career days, touring groups through facility, etc.)

Comment on the following leadership qualities.

Communication with staff, peers, and researchers

Teambuilding and motivating others

Promotion of compassionate, responsible animal care

Professional accomplishments

Memberships

Committee service and appointments on branch and national levels

Honors and awards

Peer recognition

Other noteworthy accomplishments; e.g., talks, posters, service to local branch or national AALAS, etc.

TBAALAS Helen Jordan Vendor's Award Criteria

TBAALAS Meeting Attendance (*past 5 years*)

Branch involvement (*past 5 years*)

Annual Meeting – talks, posters, facilitator/volunteer, Learning Resources, registration desk, slide coordinator, session moderator, program preparation, event coordinator, etc.

Metro Meeting – talks, posters, facilitator/volunteer, event coordinator, etc.

Submission of articles to branch newsletter

Describe experience teaching or mentoring others.

Within the LAS field

Community outreach (career days, touring groups through facility, etc.)

Promotion of compassionate, responsible animal care

Professional accomplishments and leadership involvement on branch and national levels

Memberships

Committee service and appointments on branch and national levels

Honors and awards

Peer recognition

Other noteworthy accomplishments; e.g., talks, posters, service to local branch or national AALAS, etc.





TBAALAS Recognition Award Nomination Form

Nominee: _____
 Job Title: _____
 Institution: _____
 Address: _____

Level of Qualification (check appropriate level)

Level I Rookie Level II Non-Supervisor Level III Supervisor Manager Clinical Vet Vendor

Total time in Laboratory Animal Science: _____

Member of TBAALAS? _____ If yes, how long? _____

Member of AALAS? _____ If yes, how long? _____

AALAS Certification: Indicate year achieved

ALAT _____ LAT _____ LATG _____ CMAR _____ Registered (Y/N) _____

Diplomas/Degrees: _____

Nominator:

Name: _____

Position: _____

Phone: _____

Nomination packets must address each of the suggested Award Criteria and include:

- ◆ A completed Nomination Form
- ◆ A letter completed by the nominator that addresses the suggested Award Criteria
- ◆ Letters of support: maximum of three.

Nominations are graded objectively and quantified. Criteria that are not addressed will receive scores of zero. **Please do not overlook nominees who were not selected previously. Update those nomination packets and resubmit if you feel they deserve another opportunity!** Please call Teresa Neubauer if you have questions.

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 Teresa Neubauer, TBAALAS Awards Committee Chairperson
 Baylor College of Medicine
 One Baylor Plaza, BCM - 145
 Houston, TX 77030
neubauer@bcm.edu
 (713) 798-3167



2012 TBAALAS Hotel Accommodations

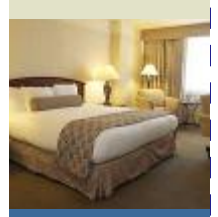


Hilton College Station and Conference Center

801 University Drive East
College Station, Texas
USA 77840-2116

Tel: +1-979-693-7500

Fax: +1-979-846-7361



A block of rooms have been reserved for February 27, 2012 - March 1, 2012. The special room rate will be available until February 7th or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first.

2 DOUBLE BEDS rates from 129.00 USD/Night

1 KING BED rates from 129.00 USD/Night

Make your reservations today!!!

Book by February 7th to reserve your room!

STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION!



Lab Animal



Lab Animal Pictionary will be held Thursday evening of the meeting. It will cost \$1.00 to play and \$1.00 to watch. Need team challenges—suggestions welcomed.



Let the Games Begin!

PONY BEADS AND PIPE CLEANER SCULPTING

“Tech Olympics” at the upcoming TB-AALAS meeting in College Station is going to have a lot of twists! We are going to have a sculpture building contest using pony beads, pipe cleaners, a foam base, and wire cutters; all of which will be provided for you. Your team’s goal will be to create an animal scene- either from your facility or nature. Each team can have 5 people total, one of whom is the team captain. If you can come up with a funny name for your team- all the better! Judging will be on originality, sculpting skills, completion, and overall favorite. Awards will be given to the first and second place. So, start thinking about your team, get those creative juices percolating and let’s see what you can come up with!

Deadline for Team Entries: February 13, 2012

If you have questions, need other information, or are returning applications:

Jamieson Greaver

Jamieson.Greaver@uth.tmc.edu

Office: 713-500-7736 Fax: 713-500-0760





Silent Auction



It is, INDEED, the time to start looking for those items that would make a great donation for our next TBAALAS Silent Auction!

Last year's auction raised over \$1,700 (split with LAAALAS) for the Technician Assistance Award.

Our next TBAALAS Meeting will be a historical one as we celebrate our 50th year as a branch. Thus, let's make this year's silent auction a historical one!

Please fax or e-mail Silent Auction donation form to:

Luis Zorrilla
210-458-6087 (fax)
luis.zorrilla@utsa.edu

Silent Auction Item: _____

Donor/Company Name: _____

Contact/Phone Number: _____

Contact Email: _____

Item

Description: _____

Estimated Value (\$): _____

Please Check One: _____ * Sending Item ** Will Bring Item to Meeting _____

* Send items to:
Luis Zorrilla (LARC)
One UTSA Circle
San Antonio, Texas, 78249

** Donations may be brought to meeting no later than 1:00 PM on Wednesday, February 29th, 2012.



Attention All Commercial Members!!!!



The Texas Branch AALAS Meeting will be held on February 29-March 2, 2012 at the Hilton Hotel In College Station, TX. The **tentative schedule** of events for the vendor area is listed below so you can start making plans.

Wednesday, 2/29/2012	8:00 am – 10:00 am 10:00 pm – 12:00 pm 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm 1:30 pm – 7:00 pm 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Set-up Vendor Exhibit Area Vendor Exhibit Area Open Exhibit Area Closed for Lunch Vendor Exhibit Area Open Welcome Reception (In Exhibit Area)
Thursday, 3/1/2012	8:00 am – 11:00 am 11:00 pm – 2:00 pm 2:00 pm ~ 4:00 pm 4:00 pm	Vendor Exhibit Area Open Awards Banquet Vendor Exhibit Area Open Pack Up Vendor Exhibit Area

In addition to having a vendor booth, we would like to invite you to participate in our Commercial Vendor Platform Presentations. We would like to have 8 vendors give a 10-15 minute educational presentation. These presentations will be held from 10-12 on February 29th. Please fill out the attached abstract form if you are interested in presenting. If you have questions, contact the Program Chair, Lindsay Holmes, at lsholmes@mdanderson.org.

Same old rules for Vendors are in effect

Each vendor will have a draped table (6' x 30"). To keep the vendor area open and flowing, the TBAALAS Board has mandated that **no exhibit be taller than 6 feet tall** (measuring from the floor). Leave those big displays at the shop!

Registration Fees

The registration fees for this year are slightly different. As a commercial member of TBAALAS, your meeting registration will remain at \$100.00. If you require electricity at your table you will be required to pay an additional \$50.00 for that service (so your meeting registration would now be \$150.00) – you need to make the appropriate selection when you register for the meeting.

Shipping Information

The instructions for shipping equipment to this meeting are in the attached documents. Information regarding meeting registration, hotel reservations, etc. is located on the TBAALAS web-site (www.tbaalas.org). If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact Rusty Thomas (rthomas@labproductsinc.com) or Jason Raynor (jhraynor@labsupplytx.com).



AALAS Board of Trustees (BOT)

Annual Session

September 30, 2011
San Diego, California
Cindy Buckmaster, Brian Gillman
District VII Trustees



Bob Dysko, 2011 AALAS President, called the meeting to order at 8:00am, Friday, September 20, 2011. A quorum was present.

Reports

- Bob Dysko welcomed the attendees and introduced staff and guests.
- Ann Turner completed roll call.
- Bob Dysko presented the President's report to the Board.
- Deb Benner presented the Secretary/Treasurer reports. The budget is on target and investments are doing well.
- Ann Turner presented the Executive Director's Report to the Board.

Discussion of Action Resolutions

The following action resolutions were presented to the Board of Trustees for discussion and action. The general discussion and results of the Board votes are presented as follows.

Online Learning Committee (OLC)

Include a license agreement for Group Coordinators to agree to when choosing customized courses on the AALAS Learning Library (ALL). This is intended to protect the AALAS community's investment in these courses.

Unanimously approved.

Government Relations Committee (GRC)

Add the immediate past chair as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the committee. This will allow for some overlap with the current chair to provide the necessary background information for issues currently under consideration by the committee.

Unanimously approved.

Awards Selection Committee (ASC)

Modify some of the language in the "policy" to that of "procedure", which will allow the committee more flexibility in determining appropriate deadlines for award nomination submissions. ("Policy" changes require Board approval.)



Approved. One abstention.

2012 Operating and Capital Budgets

A motion to approve the operating and capital budgets for 2012 was put to vote.

Approved. One opposed. One abstention.

Policy and Procedure Manual (PPM) Revisions

The PPM is regularly evaluated by the Policy and Procedures Coordinating Committee to ensure that the language in the PPM is consistent with current practices. Several revisions were reviewed and voted on for sections 4-1, 4-5, 4-7, 4-8, 4-17, 4-25. New language (italicized below) was incorporated in 4-1 to modify the AALAS Mission Statement to reflect our work as professionals. The AALAS mission statement now reads, “AALAS *is an association of professionals that advances responsible laboratory animal care and use to benefit people and animals.*”

All revisions approved unanimously.

AALAS Foundation Board Approval

Approve the AALAS Foundation Board Directors (AFBOD) at Large: Mr. Richard Cavallaro, Dr. Jane Olin, and Mr. Stephen Durkee for 3 year terms (2011-2014) and Mr. Dave Bienus for a 1 year term (2011-2012). Directors took office at the close of the National Meeting in San Diego, California. Ms. Paige Ebert was appointed as the BOT Liaison for the AFBOD by President Dr. Bob Dysko for the remainder of her BOT term (2011-2013).

Approved. One abstention.

Committee Reports

Each BOT Liaison was asked to provide a brief update for their respective committees to the entire leadership prior to voting on the Action Resolutions. Please ask your local trustee if you have specific questions regarding the activities of the various committees.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 AM on Friday, September 30, 2011.

Ssubmitted by Dr. Cindy Buckmaster, AALAS District VII Trustee





LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Kelly Garner, Legislative Committee Chair



Animal Rights Group Releases Commercial about University

The animal rights activist group **Stop Animal Exploitation Now! (SAEN)** expressed its intent to air a commercial that would shed negative light on the University's experimentation practices regarding nonhuman primates. SAEN founder **Michael Budkie** said that the commercial would run on multiple networks aimed at the **Princeton** community — including CNN, Fox News and Animal Planet — for a period of one week to 10 days. After the commercial's trial period expires, he said, the group will assess its effectiveness to determine if it will continue airing it.

The commercial, which is also posted on SAEN's website, begins with a voiceover saying, "This is torture." It then flashes a series of graphic photos, which include **primates** strapped to restraint chairs, deprived of water and bound with bolts in their heads. The commercial then urges viewers to contact **President [Shirley Tilghman]** by phone and "express concerns," while flashing her phone number across the screen.

In response, the University has maintained its stance on both the importance of animal testing for research and its commitment to strong oversight of animal research through continual review of **Princeton's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee**. "The unfortunate reality is that these groups do not recognize the breakthroughs achieved by leading research institutions, and they have resorted to distortions and sensationalist tactics that mislead the public. Through the misleading commercial, the organization misrepresents facts and refers to unverified allegations from several years ago," University Spokesperson Martin Mbugua said, referring to the anonymous "whistle-blower" account that surfaced on SAEN's website in October.

However, the University has been accused of a number of animal rights infractions in the past year. Inspection reports by the **USDA**, which governs animal testing conduct under the **Animal Welfare Act**, show that the University received six violations in 2011 and 11 in 2010. According to **Budkie**, SAEN will continue to focus on **Princeton** because, under the **Animal Welfare Act**, the **USDA** is limited in the measures it can take against lab infractions.

The Daily Princetonian, 11/16, <http://www.dailyprincetonian.com/2011/11/16/29357/>.

FBI: Wanted Vegan Terror Suspect May Be In Massachusetts

FBI agents in **Massachusetts** said a fugitive who has been on the agency's **Most Wanted Terrorist** list since 2009 may be in the **Northampton, Massachusetts**, area. **Daniel Andreas San Diego**, 33, born in **Berkeley, Calif.**, is wanted in connection with his alleged involvement in two bombings in the **San Francisco** area, according to the **FBI**.

On 28 August 2003, the **FBI** website says, two bombs exploded approximately one hour apart on the campus of a biotechnology corporation in **Emeryville, California**. Then, on 26 September 2003, one bomb strapped with nails exploded at a nutritional products corporation in **Pleasanton, California**. **San Diego** was indicted in the United States District Court, Northern District of California, in July of 2004 and the **FBI** is offering a reward of up to \$250,000 for information leading to his arrest.

An **FBI** description of **San Diego** said he has ties to animal rights extremist groups, such as the **Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC)** group, and is known to follow a vegan diet, eating no meat or food containing animal products. **SHAC** is an international campaign whose goal is to close down **Europe's** largest animal testing laboratory, **Huntingdon Life Sciences**.

In the past, the **FBI** said **San Diego** has worked as a computer network specialist and with the operating system **LINUX**. He wears eyeglasses, is skilled at sailing and has traveled internationally, the **FBI** says, and he is known to possess a handgun. He is described as about 6 feet tall, weighing 160 pounds, with brown hair and brown eyes. The **FBI** said he also had a tattoo on his chest and "a round image of burning hillsides in the center of his chest with the words 'It only takes a spark' printed in a semicircle below." "He is also known to cook and make vegan foods, and he may be using this as his income," DesLauriers said.

The Boston Channel, 11/16, <http://www.thebostonchannel.com/news/29783974/detail.html#ixzz1e4JpxTjN>.



Congress Slashes Budget of White House Science Office

Frustrated that White House officials have ignored congressional language curtailing scientific collaborations with **China**, legislators have decided to get their attention through a 32% cut in the tiny budget of the **Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)**. A 2012 spending bill (expected to be approved) slashes **OSTP's** current \$6.6 million budget to \$4.5 million. The cuts won't mean layoffs or furloughs for the office's 90-person staff, many on loan from other agencies or outside institutions. But it will have real consequences on **OSTP's** operations,"says **OSTP** Spokesperson Rick Weiss, forcing **OSTP** to prioritize existing activities in fields ranging from science education to sustainable energy.

The implicit reason for the budget cut is an ongoing battle between **House of Representatives Republicans** and the **White House** over the threat to U.S. interests posed by collaborations with **China** in high-tech sectors such as space, energy, computing, and advanced manufacturing. Representative Frank Wolf (R-VA), who chairs the **House** spending panel that oversees **NASA** as well as **OSTP**, inserted language into the final 2011 spending bill blocking both agencies from using money to pursue such activities.

Science Insider, 11/15, <http://news.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2011/11/congress-slashes-budget-of-white.html?ref=hp>.

Court Allows Couple to Sue Over Dog's Sentimental Value

A **Texas** appeals court reinstated a couple's lawsuit against an animal shelter that accidentally euthanized their 8-year-old dog, ruling that they can sue to recover the sentimental value of their pet. Randy Turner, the attorney for plaintiffs Jeremy and Katherine **Medlen**, said this would be the first time in **Texas** that someone could sue for a pet's sentimental value. A lower court judge had dismissed the **Medlens'** lawsuit over the death of their **Labrador mixed breed**, **Avery**, saying they could only sue for the market value of the pet. But the **Second Court of Appeals in Fort Worth** ruled this month that the couple can sue, saying sentimental damages can be recovered for the loss or destruction of all types of personal property, including pets. The lawsuit did not specify the amount of damages it was seeking.

Avery escaped in June 2009 from his family's back yard in **Fort Worth** and was picked up by the city's animal control. The **Medlens** found him at the shelter the next day, but through a series of slip-ups and errors, **Avery** was added to the euthanasia list and put to sleep.

My Fox Houston, 11/14, <http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/news/texas/111113-dead-dog-lawsuit>.

Chimps' Days in Labs May Be Dwindling

Biomedical research on chimps helped produce a vaccine for hepatitis B, and is aimed at one for hepatitis C, which infects 170 million people worldwide, but there has long been an outcry against the research as cruel and unnecessary. Now, because of a major push by advocacy organizations, a decision to stop such research in the **United States** could come within a year. As it is, the **United States** is one of only two countries that conduct invasive research on chimpanzees. The other is the central **African** nation of **Gabon**.

The **Humane Society of the United States** and other groups pushed the **National Institutes of Health** to commission a report on the usefulness of **chimps in research**, due this year. The society also joined with the Jane Goodall Institute, the Wildlife Conservation Society, and others to petition the federal Fish and Wildlife Service to declare captive chimps endangered, as wild chimps already are, giving them new protections. A decision is due by next September.

In addition, the **Great Ape Protection and Cost Savings Act**, now in Congress, would ban invasive research on all great apes (including bonobos, gorillas and orangutans). Representative Roscoe Bartlett, a Maryland Republican who is one of the bill's sponsors, says it would save taxpayers \$30 million a year spent on chimpanzees owned by the government. Mr. Paccelle says that invasive research on chimpanzees is expensive, that there are alternatives and that chimps in research studies suffer painful procedures and isolation. "This is an endangered species that is closer than any other species genetically," he said. "And we shouldn't abuse our power."

Dr. VandeBerg, on the other hand, says that stopping research with chimps would be a threat to human lives. "Any reduction in the rate of development of drugs for these diseases will mean hundreds of thousands of people, really millions of people, dying



because it would be years of delay,” he said. If human lives can be saved, Dr. VandeBerg said, “it would be grossly unethical not to do research” on chimpanzees.

There are 1,000 chimps housed in research facilities in the United States, including at the **New Iberia Research Center**. The center, part of the **University of Louisiana at Lafayette**, occupies 100 acres in the heart of Cajun country about 130 miles west of **New Orleans**. It houses 360 chimpanzees, 240 of which belong to the university and 120 to the **NIH**, and more than 6,000 other primates, mostly rhesus macaque monkeys. It has faced accusations of chimp mistreatment in the past, and some violations of animal care standards were found, and corrected, according to **Department of Agriculture** inspections.

Using captive chimpanzees for research in this country dates to the 1920s, when Robert Yerkes, a Yale psychology professor, began to bring them into the country. During the 1950s, the Air Force began to breed chimps for the space program, starting with 65 caught in the wild. Chimps were also bred for AIDS research in the 1980s, which met a dead end. By the mid-1970s, support for preservation of threatened species had grown, and the importing of wild-caught chimps was prohibited. In 2000, a federal law was passed requiring the government to provide for retirement of chimps it owned after their use in experiments was over, and **Chimp Haven** opened near **Shreveport, Louisiana**, to care for these chimps and others.

It was an attempt to bring some semiretired chimps at the **Alamogordo Primate Facility** in **New Mexico** back into the research pipeline that prompted part of the recent surge of opposition. The **NIH** wanted to move about 200 chimps it owned from **Alamogordo** to the **San Antonio** center, which is part of the **Texas Biomedical Research Institute**. The **Humane Society** lobbied to prevent the move, and the **NIH** relented, asking the **Institute of Medicine**, an advisory board, for the report on chimps in experimentation this year.

Chimp Haven, one potential retirement destination, now has 132 chimps on 200 acres of pine woods. Chimps live in a variety of cages and enclosures, including concrete-walled play yards of about a quarter of an acre, open to the sky, and two forested habitats, one four acres and the other five, bounded by a moat and fences. But chimps at research centers might not move at all, even if research is stopped. They might simply stay where they are, exempt from invasive studies.

Whatever the decision, both researchers and advocates know that chimps are only one tiny piece of animal research, one part of a bigger debate.

Foundation for Biomedical Research – Total E-Clips Update, 11/14, <http://www.fbresearch.org>.

AAALAC is Phasing-in New Guide Requirements

*AAALAC International has determined that institutions will be granted a phase-in period to make the necessary program modifications to conform with new “must” statements in the **8th Edition of the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide)**, NRC 2011. For a period of one year from AAALAC’s implementation of the 2011 Guide (i.e., until September 1, 2012), new “must” statements will be categorized as a “**Temporary Suggestion for Improvement**.” The single exception to this timetable is that the phase-in period for significant equipment replacement (such as rabbit cages to accommodate 16” cage height and non-human primate caging) is extended to three years (i.e., until September 1, 2014). For further details, go to the AAALAC website.*

NABR Update Vol. 32 No. 23, 11/9, <http://www.nabr.org>.

US Army Facility Agrees to Phase-Out Animal Use in Chemical Attack Training

U.S. Army spokesman Michael Elliott confirmed to the Washington Post on 13 October that the **Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense at Aberdeen Proving Grounds** will “**phase out**” the **use of vervet monkeys to train Army medical personnel** who may have to treat chemical attacks on troops. Instead, the **Army will switch to trained actors, computer programs, and mannequin-like patient simulators**. Previously, monkeys were anesthetized, injected with the nerve-blocking agent, physostigmine, and observed by **Army** medical personnel before receiving an antidote. Last month 20 vervet monkeys were received at **Aberdeen** for use in such training and apparently 48 were involved in 2008. **Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM)** formally petitioned the **Army** to end the tests in August and enlisted Rep. Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD) to meet with **Army** representatives for that purpose. **PCRM** was joined by **People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)** and the **Humane Society of the U.S. (HSUS)** in this campaign that included letter-writing, emails, and demonstrations in Aberdeen, Maryland; Washington and at the homes of some Army officials.



NABR Update Vol. 32 No. 22, 10/26, <http://www.nabr.org>.

PETA Lawsuit Seeks Constitutional Rights for SeaWorld Orcas

A federal court is being asked to **grant constitutional rights** to **five killer whales** who perform at marine parks - an unprecedented and quixotic legal action that is nonetheless likely to stoke an ongoing, intense debate at America's law schools over expansion of animal rights. **People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)** is accusing the **SeaWorld parks** of keeping five star-performer whales in conditions that violate the **13th Amendment** ban on slavery. The suit, which **PETA** says it will file today in U.S. District Court in San Diego, hinges on the fact that the **13th Amendment**, while prohibiting slavery and involuntary servitude, does not specify that only humans can be victims. The lawsuit asks the court to order the orcas released to the custody of a legal guardian who would find a "suitable habitat" for them. Jeff Kerr, PETA's general counsel, said his five-member legal team - which spent 18 months preparing the case - believes it's the first federal court suit seeking constitutional rights for members of an animal species. SeaWorld said any effort to extend the **13th Amendment's** protections beyond humans "is baseless and in many ways offensive."

While chances of the case succeeding are slim, according to legal experts, lawyers within the animal rights movement have been working for years to lay the groundwork and test new legal theories in a focused and determined effort to grant additional legal protections for animals, including animals involved in research.

For more information, see this [article from yesterday's Washington Post](#).

For more information about the efforts of animal rights attorneys to gain increased legal protections for animals, see: <http://www.nabranimalaw.org>.

NABR Update Vol. 32 No. 22, 10/26, <http://www.nabr.org>.

NIO Activist Sues UF for Primate Records

Negotiation is Over (NIO) founder Camille Marino has filed a lawsuit against the **University of Florida (UF)** for denying a public records request related to research involving primates. Marino, whose group recently distributed fliers offering \$100 rewards for information on students involved in animal research, requested information about 33 **UF** primates last fall. **UF** initially requested that Marino pay \$566.54 for the records, but later determined that the records were exempt from disclosure and refunded the money. The exemption at issue in the case is designed to protect the confidentiality of veterinary medical patient records.

UF spokeswoman Janine Sikes said the university received a courtesy copy of the lawsuit but had not yet been served, and would respond appropriately when it was. "We take the safety of our researchers, the rigorous regulations on the treatments of animals and all of our compliance obligations very seriously," she said. For more information, see [this local press report](#).

NABR Update Vol. 32 No. 22, 10/26, <http://www.nabr.org>.

Ohio Animal Release Spurs State Bill, Includes Research Exemption

In the aftermath of the release of 56 wild and exotic animals in **Ohio**, Rep. Debbie Phillips has introduced a bill to prohibit any person from acquiring a **dangerous exotic animal**. While the bill could affect some research facilities in the state - as the definition of dangerous exotic animal includes nonhuman primates - it includes an exemption stating that the prohibition does not apply to vocational schools, colleges, universities or research facilities as defined in the **Animal Welfare Act**.

NABR Update Vol. 32 No. 22, 10/26, <http://www.nabr.org>.

Puerto Rico Court of Appeals Halts Construction of Primate Breeding Facility

The **Puerto Rico Court of Appeals** has ruled that Bioculture cannot move forward with plans to build a **primate breeding facility in Guayama, Puerto Rico**. In 2009, **People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)** and several Puerto Rico residents filed a lawsuit alleging that Bioculture's construction permit was issued in violation of Puerto Rico law because the Regulations and Permits Administration did not make an Environmental Impact Determination. The **Court of Appeals'** decision upheld a December 2009 **Superior Court** ruling halting construction of the facility. The **Puerto Rico** lawsuit alleging violations of permit and environmental laws is the latest action in a larger trend of using "creative legal tactics" to oppose research.

NABR Update Vol. 32 No. 21, 11/12, <http://www.nabr.org>.

National Primate Liberation Week

Activist **Michael Budkie** of **Stop Animal Exploitation Now (SAEN)** announced **National Primate Liberation Week** was held 15 -23 October 2011.

Foundation for Biomedical Research – Total E-Clips Update, 9/6, <http://www.fbresearch.org>.

Public Comments Sought on Captive Chimpanzee Reclassification under Endangered Species Act

The **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)** announced in a **Federal Register Notice** on September 1st that an **Endangered Species Act (ESA)** status review has been initiated to determine whether to reclassify all captive chimpanzees from “threatened” to “endangered.” Currently, wild chimpanzees are designated as endangered, but captive chimpanzees are listed as threatened. Captive chimpanzees within the United States are covered by a special rule allowing activities otherwise prohibited by the **ESA**. If **FWS** decides to reclassify the captive population, the effects on this special rule are uncertain.

This status review was prompted by a petition submitted in March of 2010 by eight organizations led by the **Humane Society of the United States**. According to the **Federal Register Notice**, **FWS** found that “the petition presents substantial scientific or commercial information indicating that listing all chimpanzees as endangered may be warranted.” The 150-page petition argues that separately listing captive and wild chimpanzees is scientifically unjustified and contrary to the conservation purpose of the **ESA**, as the “unjustifiable regulatory approach has continued to contribute to the endangerment of this species in the wild.” It alleges that the use of captive chimpanzees in the U.S. negatively impacts wild populations of the species by fueling poaching and trafficking and undermining conservation efforts. While most of the petition details the “commercial exploitation” of chimpanzees for entertainment, advertising and as pets, the petition also targets biomedical research saying that the “exploitation of this species for biomedical purposes has not positively benefitted chimpanzees in captivity or in the wild.”

FWS Extends Comment Period on Captive Chimpanzee Status Review until 30 January 2012.

NABR Update Vol. 32 No. 19, 9/14, <http://www.nabr.org>.

APHIS Proposes New Requirements for Dogs Imported to U.S.

The **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)** of the **U.S. Department of Agriculture** is proposing regulatory changes that “would help to ensure the welfare of imported dogs” as described in a September 1st notice in the Federal Register. **The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008** added a new section to the **Animal Welfare Act (AWA)** restricting the importation of certain live dogs. Consistent with that **AWA** amendment, this proposed rule would, subject to limited exceptions, prohibit the importation of dogs from any part of the world into the continental United States or Hawaii for purposes of resale, research, or veterinary treatment, unless the dogs are in good health, have received all necessary vaccinations, and are at least 6 months of age.

NABR Update Vol. 32 No. 19, 9/14, <http://www.nabr.org>.

PARLIMENTARIAN REPORT

T. Lane Watkins

THE FOLLOWING SOP'S HAVE BEEN UPDATED AND APPROVED:

Nominations and Elections

President

Education and Training

Historian

Publications

Member at Large (Board Member)

President Elect

Legislation



With the help of Brian Gillman (Past Treasurer) and Pat Sikes (Treasurer), the Treasurer SOP was updated and approved by the Board on 10-21-11. All the up to date SOP's will be on the member section of the website soon for your viewing pleasure.



Biosecurity and the Changing Face of Activism and Extremism

JOIN US ON DECEMBER 6, 2011 FOR THIS FAST-PACED & INFORMATIVE FULL DAY CONFERENCE!

The Conference Center at NorthPointe, 9243 Columbus Pike, Lewis Center, OH 43035

Security for organizations performing biomedical research with animals is no longer just gates, guards and guns.

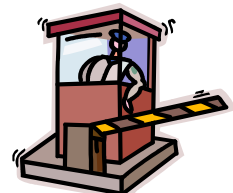
Improving your organization's biosecurity practices, protecting intellectual property, reducing social media and other internet threats such as hacking, preparing for severe legal challenges to all aspects of animal research at the local, state and federal level, even understanding the issues posed by animal rights shareholder initiatives are now all part of your security portfolio.

And because of the broadness of the threats, security can no longer belong solely to the organization's security department, but is now everyone's concern.

In life sciences research, biosecurity typically refers to practices designed to decrease the likelihood that biological research will be misused for malicious purposes. Biosecurity is a central concern of this workshop; we are also covering the larger family of important risks and threats listed below.

We will use case studies and peer discussion to give you specific action-oriented steps for your organization:

- Personnel reliability and physical security, including managing employee screening programs and security clearances; providing lab security and code of conduct training; and implementing best biosecurity practices
- The significant expansion of animal law in the US and abroad which indicates that 'animal rights' is now firmly on the agenda for serious consideration across the US -legislators at all levels and courts at all levels are in the crosshairs
- AR groups continue to become shareholders of publicly held companies and now demand that their voices and their petitions be heard at





annual meetings or included in proxy statements

Research organizations have found their databases and websites compromised, hacked or hijacked. Individual researchers have also been subjected to on-line targeting ranging from the benign to the very scary. And students have been viciously targeted for their choice of majors and research topics, and grad students have been threatened.

WHO should attend: Security Personnel, Human Resources, Public Relations, Government Relations, Pls, Program Directors, Managers and Animal Care Staff Leaders

To view FULL-day agenda click here! - This conference consists of cutting-edge sessions and outstanding presenters and wonderful networking opportunities!

SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES! - As a sponsor, your company will receive EXPOSURE from all promotions for *Biosecurity & The Changing Face Of Activism & Extremism*, a security conference. You will also gain **Visibility** and **Networking Opportunities** with attendees at the conference. As a company that is **Involved** and **Dedicated** to the life science community, you are without doubt an ideal partner for us.

Registration Sponsor: \$1,000

Lunch Idea Exchange Sponsor: \$750

Networking Reception: \$1,500

Conference Sponsor: \$2500.00



ATENDEES & SPONSORS ... Register Now! *Registration fee includes attendance at the conference, breakfast, refreshment breaks, lunch, and conference materials*

CONFERENCE & HOTEL INFORMATION - A block of rooms have been reserved at NorthPointe under **MSMR** for **\$119.00 per night + taxes**. To make your reservations **call 866.233.9393**.

DIRECTIONS or AIRPORT SHUTTLE - It's no problem getting to the airport, a mere 20 minutes away, with the Airport Shuttle Service. They also offer shuttle service to nearby malls and attractions.

CANCELLATION POLICY - Cancellations submitted in WRITING OR BY EMAIL prior to November 1, 2011 will be reimbursed minus a \$50.00 administration fee. Cancellations after November 6, 2011, WILL NOT be refunded.



Questions: Call MSMR at 978-251-1556



2012 Technician Assistance Award



TBAALAS wants to send YOU to the 63rd National AALAS Meeting in Minneapolis, MN November 4th -8th, 2012

What is the Technician Assistance Award?

This award is funded by TBAALAS to help support Laboratory Animal Technician's to become more involved in Laboratory Science.

What does the Award Offer?

Opportunity to attend the National Meeting and TRAVEL!

\$1600.00 towards your registration, airfare, lodging, and meals!

Educational opportunities! Learn a new technique or gain insight into the many different aspects of our industry to better yourself and the animals you care for!

Networking! Get to know other technicians, vendors and researchers!
Career development!

How do you qualify for the award?

Be a TBAALAS member in good standing!

What you need to submit for the award?

Completed application

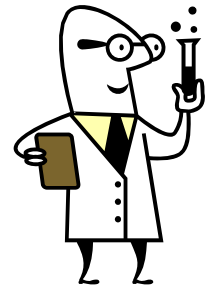
*A letter from your Director on institutional letterhead with the following information:
Reasons why you deserve the award and a pledge of support stating that you will attend if selected.*

All submissions will need to be postmarked by February 1st 2012

You may submit your application by email, fax or mail to :



Amy Boyd RLATG
TBAALAS Education & Training Chair
Alcon Laboratories
6201 S Freeway
Fort Worth TX, 76134
817-551-8546 (Office)
817-568-6285 (Fax)
Amy.Boyd@alconlabs.com





2012 TBAALAS TECHNICIAN ASSISTANCE AWARD APPLICATION

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Job Title: _____

TBAALAS Member? Yes _____, since _____ No _____

National AALAS Member? Yes _____, since _____ No _____

AALAS Certified? Yes _____, level _____ No _____

What types of training are you currently involved in?

_____ Personal (your own time, for self improvement)

_____ Facility staff (classroom or wet lab)

_____ Research staff

_____ Community Outreach

Explanation of Need: In 50 words or less, describe what benefits both you and your facility would obtain by your attendance to National AALAS. (you may attach an additional sheet)

Application packets must be **postmarked by February 1, 2012.**



Lama



LABORATORY ANIMAL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

LAMA's mission is to enhance the quality of management and care of laboratory animals, to actively assist in the training of managers and to encourage continuing education. We would like to invite you to join us and be a part of this mission as a participant in this year's program.

The year's theme "The Art and Science of Resource Management"

LAMA and ATA are soliciting presentations on topics such as:

Human Resources, Public Outreach, Capital Resources, Time Management, Fiscal Resources, Information Resources, Strategic Planning, Equipment Management, Manager Training, Biosafety Training, Career Advancement and Aquatics.

Submission instructions and deadlines can be found at:

<http://www.lama-online.org/events/call-for-speakers/>

Program Committee Chair

Jeanette Pearson
Phone: 281-757-0638

Program Committee Vice Chair

Jennifer Volkmann
Phone: 713-798-1812

Hotel Information

The Driskill Hotel
604 Brazos Street
Austin, TX 78701

Room Rate: \$199 Single or Double

Reservations:

Please enter Group Code: 20B6VD

Or

Call: 800.252.9367 or 512.474.5911

We also have secured sleeping rooms across the street at the InterContinental Stephen F. Austin Hotel at the rate of \$199 for a traditional king or queen accommodations and \$219 for two double beds. To make reservations please call 512-457-8800 or 800-327-0200. Mention you are with the LAMA group.

Room block expires on 3/13/2012.



TBAALAS Board Meeting
October 21, 2011
 College Station Hilton, College Station, TX

**Attending**

Brian Gillman, President
 Lane Watkins, Parliamentarian
 Kelly Garner, Legislative Chairperson
 Lindsay Holmes, Program Chairperson
 John Park, Local Arrangements 2012
 Pat Sikes, Treasurer

Karen Montijo, Secretary
 Angie Hitt, Board Member
 Summer Boyd, Board Member
 Kelly Campbell, Board Member
 Jamie Greaver, Technician Branch Representative
 Ryan Byrd, New Nominations/Elections Chairperson

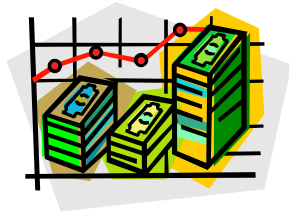
Absent

Andy Pesek, Past President
 Luis Zorilla, Board Member

Stacy LeBlanc, Historian
 Robert Rose, President-Elect

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:47 am.

Treasurer's Report

- TBAALAS currently has \$30, 120.74 in checking. A check is on the way from the LA branch \$6541.00. We were \$12,842.13 negative year to date. The LA payment changes our deficit to \$6301.00. Donations from vendors are all in now and a final report for meeting 2012 will be produced.
- Due structuring - \$300.00 Commercial Membership gives vendors the right to a table at the meeting. This has been reworded on the website for clarification.
- Need to encourage attendance at the 2012 meeting. \$100.00 registration allows an institution to send up to three people under one registration on each of the three days. Send names to Pat Sikes if taking advantage of this registration option. The board also agreed to add a one day \$50.00 registration which will be added to the website as an option.
- Commercial membership fees have increased, but general membership fees remain the same. It was discussed to encourage membership and meeting attendance and that the website was helping maintain renewals of existing memberships.
- The Treasurer SOP edits will be incorporated into one document to be sent out to the board by the secretary for final review and approval.
- Change is required to name on TBAALAS US Global Investors Account from Texas Branch AALAS Brian Gillman Treasurer to Texas Branch AALAS Treasurer. The name change has been made.
- Summer Boyd made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report which was seconded by Karen Montijo, all votes in favor. **Motion approved.**



2013 Meeting Site

- The Location will be the Hilton in Fort Worth from 2/4-2/6 with a \$17,000 Food and Beverage minimum. The contract currently states a \$20,000 minimum. Pat Sikes said the contract needed some edits to Food and Beverage minimum and dates. She will inform Paula Rigling.
- It was also discussed to add the CMAR exam at the 2013 meeting. The board was open to the idea and suggested the Program Chair pursue.

Trustee Report – Karen Montijo and Brian Gillman

- Karen summarized and Brian concurred that the BOT meeting was primarily an AALAS policies and procedures revisions meeting. The one policy that has pending revisions was the Awards Criteria and submission date revisions which were sent back for further editing.
- The 2012 budget was approved.

TSBR Report – Brian Gillman

- Several subcommittees were formed to evaluate the processes, re-evaluate dues and member services, and better define member benefits.
- The next meeting will be December 7, 2011 after the SCAW meeting in San Antonio
- A replacement is needed for the TBAALAS representative as Brian comes off the TSBR board December 2011. Leticia McGuffy and Valeri Lansford were suggested names.

Committee Reports

Awards – Summer Boyd for Teresa Neubauer

- The Call for Nominations is on the website. Nominations are due by December 1, 2011.
- Due to the shorter timeframe it was mentioned that a web blast needed to go out soon.
- It was suggested to have Teresa contact the ones who did not win last year and suggest that they resubmit.

Education & Training – Summer Boyd for Amy Boyd

- The question was asked whether an institution could donate their unused TBAALAS ALL accounts to institutions that did not purchase accounts for their employees. As the accounts are not automatically given, meaning registration for an ALL account is not automatic at TBAALS membership registration; ALL accounts are requested as a separate step by each individual as desired, donation of accounts was not an option in this proposed scenario.
- We can hold the paper and pencil AALAS certification exams at the 2012 meeting. The cost is \$250.00 for 1-24 exams and \$500.00 for >25 exams. Summer will confirm whether multiple levels of exams can be given at the same time with the same proctor.
- TBAALAS will pay the \$250.00 proctor fee to National AALAS.
- Test takers must be at least a day registrant and be TBAALAS members.
- Summer will talk to Metro Coordinators and Trainers of Institutions in Texas to gauge interest.
- We need to confirm numbers and plan for a designated room by December of this year in order to conduct the certifications exams at the 2012 meeting.
- It is anticipated that the CM1 exam will be conducted at the 2012 meeting – Summer will confirm with Cindy Buckmaster.
- UTSouthwestern is considering requesting Metro funds for the Zoo visit, but has not formally requested. During initial discussion of this potential request, the board felt it was not appropriate use of the funds.
- The board was unsure of who was the Houston Metro Coordinator – Teresa Neubauer and Jeanette Bicknell are listed in the newsletter. Summer will confirm.





Commercial Liaison – Brian for Rusty Thomas

- Rusty Thomas is working with Jason Raynor for 2012. Rusty is gearing up now with information to vendors as the meeting date is early and dues payments are needed.
- It was decided that internet access will be a separate charge to the vendors upon request at the 2012 meeting.

Publications – Karen Montijo for Carrie Schulz

- November 15 – deadline for December newsletter.

Membership – Pat Sikes and Brian Gillman for Belinda Proctor

- Prior to a membership expiring a reminder will go out to renew. A letter will also go out when it expires and ask if they are interested in renewal.
- Institutional memberships can request that their annual renewal date be moved to coincide with their fiscal year if desired.
- Institutional membership may be purchased in blocks of five (5).



Nominations & Elections

- Steve Sterle has relocated to Iowa and a new chairperson is needed.
- Ryan Byrd was contacted and agreed via phone to take over as the chairperson and arrived to attend the remainder of the meeting.
- Lane Watkins agreed to mentor Ryan in this new role.
- Online elections were researched originally by Steve and John Donaho.
- Voting on Demand was the selected company due to the Cost, Simplicity and benefits of 3rd party handling of the election process. The cost is \$413.25 for 425 votes (\$0.87/vote).
- Pat Sikes made a motion to select “Voting on Demand” as the company and ask John Donaho to proceed with setting up. Kelly Campbell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of proceeding.

Legislative – Kelly Garner

- Kelly is following the current high profile Chimp issue and will keep the board apprised of any changes.
- PETA is currently in court.
- Kelly is also following the anticipated documentary about the Southwest Foundation in San Antonio slated to come out soon.
- Kelly is remaining in contact with TSBR for up to date information that may affect the membership of TBAALAS.

TBR

- Technician Olympics will be animal related theme using pipe cleaners.
- Technician Olympics will be held at the Wednesday evening reception.
- Need to include sponsorship opportunities in the newsletter and get an email blast out with the same information.
- Pictionary will be held Thursday evening of the meeting. It will cost \$1.00 to play and \$1.00 to watch. Considering team challenges – suggestions welcomed.

Historian – Brian Gillman for Stacy LeBlanc

- Calendars – minimal orders at this point. No cost to TBAALAS up front.
- Historical paraphernalia is still needed to the 50th anniversary display. Some items may have been lost with the loss of Dale’s house.
- Plan is to have a large board at the entrance of the vendor area with pictures etc. for the 50th anniversary.





Long Range Planning – no report

Parliamentarian – Lane Watkins

- Will review SOP status and report back on which one's still remain to be updated.
- Will have a blurb in the next newsletter.
- SOPs will be put on the “member's only” section of the website

Web Coordinator - Cordelia Rose is John Donaho's backup



Program – Lindsay Holmes

- No submissions/abstracts have been received.
- Need a preliminary program for the newsletter to encourage interest
- Need to encourage technician abstract submissions.
- Need two one(1) hour long talks for Thursday PM and Friday AM. Suggestions for Labor Law and FBI animal Rights talks were made during the discussion.
- Robert Sedluczek, the investor of the MI lid, is the keynote speaker.
- Talks lined up include:
 - U. Christina Stephens – Historical TBAALAS talk
 - Dale Bush – Historical Perspective on Cage Design
 - Jeannette Pearson – Cagewash 101 talk
- Suggested talks during discussion:
 - Enrichment Talk/Poster from Alcon – Lindsay to check with Robert Rose
 - Bioserv Fear Factor talk – Lindsay to check with Bioserv
 - Bastrop fire lessons learned talk
 - Contract Services presentation – UTSW?
 - Cost Accounting
 - Animal Health Reporting – Erin Slay and Dr. Mary White-Carter from UTSW talk from their poster at National AALAS.
- Roundtable on Animal Transport was suggested – Charles River, Harlan, and World Courier participants.
- Vendor Talks – suggested two hour block with 15 min time slots each that are education oriented.
- It was discussed that award eligible technician talks be scheduled on Wednesday PM and Thursday AM.
- Tours were discussed. LGL tour, Vet School or Wildlife Center were suggested. Transportation expenses need to be researched. John Parks suggested TX A& M University buses at \$60.00 per hour.
- Election dates need to be moved to coincide with the new meeting dates.
- AREA Program – are we going to hold at this meeting?
 - TSBR was going to contact Vet Tech Program to see if interested students
 - Plan for a presentation covering general careers, AALAS, vet tech focused topics, Exhibit hall tour and lunch.
 - Need to make a decision on holding program and obtain separate lunch costs for the group
- John Parks, Stacy LeBlanc and Brian Gillman are working on “After Hours” activities
- Golf outing will be planned



Old Business

- Relook at Awards SOP. Revise to ensure that the awards chairperson or awards committee member cannot win an award. Requires a policy change.

New Business

TBAALAS 50th pin – Pat will get pricing from company who already has our image. It would be available for purchase or be a meeting giveaway depending on cost.

Adjourn



Branch Support Fuels Foundation Fundraising Success!!!

San Diego served as a beautiful backdrop for the 62nd Annual AALAS National Meeting where attendees generously contributed \$47,283 to support the Foundation's public outreach efforts!

Thank you to all those who participated in the **2nd Annual TotalMRO Golf Outing**, the **22nd Annual STERIS 5K Run/Walk**, and the **Silent and Live Auction**.

Special thanks to the AALAS Branches who generously contributed to the AALAS Foundation Silent and Live Auction. 23 branches donated \$3,065 worth of auction items, which generated \$3,036 in donations to the Foundation.

Branch Auction Donor	Value	Winning Bid
Arizona Branch	\$90.00	\$30.00
Central Illinois Branch	\$25.00	\$25.00
Central Ohio Branch	\$50.00	\$25.00
Chicago Branch	\$60.00	\$135.00
Florida Branch	\$100.00	\$50.00
Kentucky Branch	\$105.00	\$65.00
Louisiana Branch	\$50.00	\$40.00
Metro New York Branch	\$100.00	\$50.00
Michigan Branch	\$100.00	\$40.00
Minnesota Branch	\$200.00	\$90.00
National Capital Area Branch	\$200.00	\$300.00
Nebraska Branch	\$55.00	\$20.00
New England Branch	\$150.00	\$51.00
New Jersey Branch	\$340.00	\$110.00
Northern California Branch	\$100.00	\$75.00
Oklahoma Branch	\$150.00	\$550.00
Oregon Branch	\$400.00	\$675.00
Palms to Pines Branch	\$85.00	\$25.00
Research Triangle Branch	\$100.00	\$60.00
San Diego Branch	\$150.00	\$175.00
Southern Ohio Branch	\$115.00	\$40.00
Texas Branch	\$50.00	\$40.00
Washington Branch	\$120.00	\$70.00
Wisconsin	\$170.00	\$295.00
Total	\$3,065.00	\$3,036.00



Silent and Live Auction

The annual Silent and Live Auction generated a total of \$17,021, with the Live Auction posting an impressive total of \$10,010! Thank you to Brian Ebert for serving as auctioneer. A special thank you goes out to Charles River for sponsoring the Appreciation Reception and Live Auction.

2nd Annual Total MRO Golf Outing

Sixty golfers and 20 sponsors participated in the 2nd Annual TotalMRO Golf Outing at the Vineyard Golf Club in Escondido, which generated a \$3,000 donation to the Foundation.



STERIS 5K Run/ Walk

The 22nd Annual STERIS 5K Run/Walk broke both their participation and donation records this year! 177 runners and 31 walkers participated in the event this year, resulting in a \$6,095 donation to the Foundation.

Allentown Special Event

Allentown made an \$8,216 contribution to the Foundation at the National Meeting, bringing the company's lifetime Foundation contribution total to \$60,000.

Tecniplast National Meeting Contribution

Tecniplast continued its tradition of giving \$5,000 to the Foundation at the AALAS National Meeting. The company also contributes \$5,000 a year through a 5-year pledge to the Foundation

Giving to the Foundation

The AALAS Foundation would like to recognize the following branches for making financial contributions to the AALAS Foundation in 2011:

Branch Contributors	Amount
Appalachian Branch	\$250.00
Delaware Valley Branch	\$459.00
Metro New York Branch	\$25.00
National Capital Area Branch	\$5,000.00
Southeastern Branch	\$1,000.00
Three Rivers Branch	\$200.00



Branches can make a tax-deductible contribution to the AALAS Foundation using our online [donation portal](#). All donations received by December 31 will be recognized in the 2011 AALAS Foundation Annual Report, on the [Foundation website](#), and in AALAS publications.



Coming in the April/May TBAALAS Newsletter:

Committee News

Metro Coordinator Updates

Training Opportunities

Outreach Opportunities

Facility Focus

Technician Spotlight

Much More!!



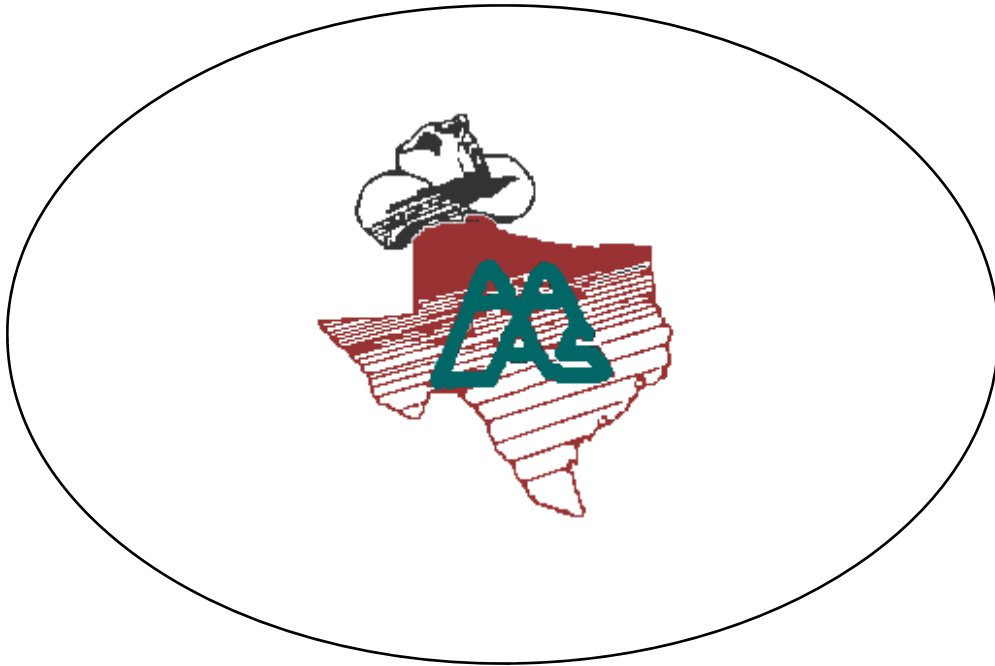
Deadline for Submissions:

March 9, 2012

to clschultz@testdiet.com

We want to hear from you!

- News from your facility
- New AALAS Certifications or Staff Promotions
- Job Openings
- Technician Tips
- Showcase your pet
- Anything you want to share with TBAALAS



Carrie Schultz, Ph.D.
100 Danforth Drive
Gray Summit, MO

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