

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CARDIFF UNIVERSITY BIOLOGICAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE HIN COUNCIL CHAMBER, MAIN BUILDING AT 4.00PM

275 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2010 (BSC/10/27) were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

276 MATTERS ARISING

276.1 Use of animals and project outputs [vide Minute 261.8.3]

NOTED that the amendments had been made to the retrospective review pro-forma, so that information on long-term practical benefits of work could be captured along with compliance with ARRIVE Guidelines for publications.

276.2 EU Directive [vide Minute 263.1.8]

NOTED that the Home Office's consultation document had not yet been issued, but that CHAG would be convened to formulate advice to the Certificate Holder on receipt.

276.3 Universities' Legal Briefing and access form [vide Minute 263.2.3-5]

NOTED that amendments had been agreed and implemented on the access form to comply with the Universities' Legal Briefing advice.

276.4 Users' Group maintenance charges survey [vide Minute 267.4]

NOTED that the survey had been completed and analysis of the information would be carried out and reported at a later meeting if relevant.

277 ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

277.1 NOTED that a new agenda structure was being introduced at this meeting which was intended to raise the profile and content of the ethical component of the Committee's work.

277.2 NOTED that the Chair intended to visit S38 Health and Safety before the next meeting.

278 ITEMS FROM THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER

No items to report

279 PROJECT LICENCE APPLICATIONS

Received papers BSC/10/29 "*The use of different compounds as therapeutic interventions for bacterial septic shock*" and BSC/10/30 "*The genetic control of lithium sensitivity*".

279.1 The use of different compounds as therapeutic interventions for bacterial septic shock

NOTED

- .1 that the applicant needed to clarify in the application that control groups would not be necessary every time the experiments were run, so that the number of animals experiencing the more adverse effects would be minimised;
- .2 that animals will be humanely killed as soon as adverse effects become sufficiently clear to establish the necessary effect, so that death will not be an endpoint in practice, and that an expected 80% of experimental group animals would not experience adverse effects;
- .3 that the advice of the NVS would be sought and followed where adverse effects, such as conjunctivitis, can be alleviated;
- .4 that the applicant needed to clarify in the application that adverse effects assessments will be carried out at least six times over 24 hours;
- .5 that the applicant should ensure that adverse effects were described consistently throughout the application;
- .6 that the application should include evidence that optimal numbers had been calculated, if necessary by consulting a statistician;
- .7 that the application should include the incidence of human sepsis syndrome for the UK , if figures are available;
- .8 that the applicant should discuss the practical aspects of the proposal with the relevant Chief Animal Technician, ^{S38 Health and Safety} the NACWO, and the NVS, and agree a likely starting date so that they could arrange to be available to monitor the progress of adverse effects;

RESOLVED

- .9 that the application be recommended to the Certificate Holder for submission to the Home Office subject to the above being addressed.

279.2 The genetic control of lithium sensitivity

NOTED

- .1 that the applicant should clarify in the protocol that all animals will be killed within approximately 10 days following exposure to lithium;
- .2 that the application should be amended to update the service licence reference number and correct the references to protocols in the flow diagram;

RESOLVED

- .3 that the application be recommended to the Certificate Holder for submission to the Home Office subject to the above being addressed.

280 **CHAG PROJECT LICENCE APPLICATION REVIEW REPORT**

Received paper BSC/10/31 "Licensing Report".

NOTED that since the last meeting, the Certificate Holder's Advisory Group had recommended four applications for amendments to existing project licences and three applications for continuation project licences.

281 **NC3Rs AWARDS AT CARDIFF UNIVERSITY**

Received paper BSC/10/32

NOTED

- 281.1 that researchers in the University had clearly been successful in obtaining grants and other awards from the NC3Rs and that the value of this work was recognized by the ethical review process;
- 281.2 that one of the more prominent recipients of NC3Rs awards was a member of the Committee, and that the member's contribution to ERP as an expert on replacement of animals in science was recognized, since such work can often be invisible to ERPs, which can be primarily focused on work that actively involves animals;
- 281.3 that the NC3Rs proposed to hold an event at the University as part of its Crack-it initiative to stimulate a dialogue on industry's needs and academia's research capabilities.

282 **ANNUAL JBIOS HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT**

Received paper BSC/10/33.

NOTED

- 282.1 that there had been a slight increase in the number of minor injuries reported over the last twelve months, but that the number was still very small;
- 282.2 that the difference between a "major" and a "minor" injury was based on the RIDDOR criterion of the length of resulting absence from the workplace;
- 282.3 that the JBIOS reporting might not capture all injuries, since some were likely to be reported via the user schools' safety systems;
- 282.4 that additional engineering measures to reduce airborne allergens in JBIOS areas were being tested;

282.5 S38 Health and Safety

- 282.6 that OSHEU's recent implementation of cross-charging for disposal of clinical waste could not be applied in a way that differentiated between JBIOS and user schools' waste. JBIOS therefore intended to incorporate this new cost into its standard cage charges.

283 **VISITS BY THE HOME OFFICE INSPECTOR**

NOTED

- 283.1 that there had been four visits from the inspector since the last meeting, the most recent being unannounced;
- 283.2 that the inspector had met with a number of Project Licence holders and applicants, and had inspected designated areas over the visits with no significant problems found;
- 283.3 that one of the visits was primarily to investigate a non-compliance incident, which was as yet unconcluded. It was clear that the incident was due to an omission in the paperwork and did not involve any failure in animal welfare standards, and in fact had resulted in a reduction in the use of animals which had previously been welcomed by the committee;
- 283.4 that the necessary amendment will be made to the relevant project licence as soon as the outcome of the investigation has been notified to the University.

284 **REPORT FROM THE NAMED VETERINARY SURGEON**

NOTED

- 284.1 that the University and NVS had agreed and signed a new formal contract using standard University contractual terms;
- 284.2 that the Certificate Holder and Committee wished to express their gratitude for the NVS's continuing good service.

285 **CERTIFICATE OF DESIGNATION**

NOTED

- 285.1 that the problem of temperature control that had been holding up the designation of new procedure rooms S38 Health and Safety had now been resolved;
- 285.2 that the inspector had agreed the suitability of a laboratory in the Building for procedures, and the application to add this to the Schedule of Premises was with the Home Office;

286 **RE-USE OF ANIMALS**

Received paper BSC/10/34 for information

- 286.1 NOTED that the re-use and continued use of animals in procedures could be a very good way both to assist in achieving objectives and in some cases as a means to reduce and refine the use of animals in procedures;

RESOLVED

- 286.2 that the paper be sent out to all project licence holders for guidance.

287 **REPORT FROM THE OPERATIONAL DIRECTOR OF JBIOS FACILITIES**

Received paper BSC/10/35 and oral report from the ODF.

NOTED

- 287.1 that the contractual and other implications of redeployment of staff between sites was being investigated;
- 287.2 that the table comparing JBIOS animal maintenance charges with those in other Russell Group universities indicated that researchers in the University enjoyed relatively low charges for all types of animal services. However, such inference must be made cautiously, since the scope of service provision across different universities was usually not made available and was likely to be quite variable;
- 287.3 that a visit from a prominent local politician had been very useful and that the University had been able to correct some of the misconceptions that the councillor had been given to believe. A similar visit from another local politician was expected in the near future;
- 287.4 that controlled openness on animal-related matters might be extended to help prevent such misconceptions being held by influential figures;
- 287.5 that the greater possibilities of the use of new facility S38 Health and Safety S38 Health and Safety should be re-examined. The facility offered the possibility of a barriered production unit to supply high quality genetically altered rodents to projects throughout the University;

RESOLVED

- 287.6 that the case for such a facility, outlining the likely costs and benefits, be drawn up and circulated to interested parties before the next meeting, so that informed discussion on the matter could be entered into at the meeting.

288 **REPORT FROM THE USERS' GROUP**

Received paper BSC/10/36 and oral report from the Chair of the Users' Group

NOTED

- 288.1 that the Group's meeting on finance and animal maintenance charges for 2011 had been useful and productive, but had been significantly delayed because of problems with the University's new accounting system;

- 288.2 that the Group felt that its lack of input into the process for the second year running was regrettable, and that assurances that in future years the process would include some meaningful discussion with the Group was needed;

RESOLVED

- 288.3 that the Group's finance meeting for 2012/13 be scheduled for early January 2012.

289 **REPORT FROM THE S38 Health and Safety BARRIER FACILITIES**

Received paper BSC/10/37 from the barrier representative.

NOTED

- 289.1 that planning permission for the building project that had required the temporary closure of S38 Health and Safety was granted in June 2009;

- 289.2 that breaches to the S38 Health and Safety during this work will necessitate a full clean-down and decontamination of the area prior to reoccupation

- 289.3 that the barrier technical manager was soon to resume her post after maternity leave;

- 289.4 that some environmental control problems S38 Health have again appeared;

290 **CAPITAL MATTERS AND ESTATES REPORT**

Received an oral report from the Director of Estates Development (Architectural) and an oral report from the Director of Estates Development (Engineering).

NOTED

- 290.1 that legal problems with building contractors were delaying completion of the building project S38 Health and Safety;

- 290.2 that the start of remedial work to the humidification plant at the Facility was imminent;

- 290.3 that the quarterly unannounced alarm tests S38 Health and Safety had begun;

- 290.4 that MEDIC had agreed to vacate an office at S38 Health and Safety to facilitate work to improve the facility's entrance area;

- 290.5 that work had been agreed to reinstate the areas outside the facility following building work in the area.

291 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

16th May 2011 at 4.00pm,

**FILE COPY OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CARDIFF UNIVERSITY
BIOLOGICAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 28th MARCH 2011 AT 4.00PM**

Signed.....(Chair)