



October 17, 2023

The NABR Update is a news summary of federal and state government affairs, animal rights activities, and other issues related to animal research that may have a direct effect on your organization or its constituents. It's an exclusive service available for NABR members only. If your organization is interested in joining NABR or if you have any questions or suggestions, please email us at info@nabr.org.

NHP Update

ICYMI: IUCN Standards and Petitions Committee Accepts NABR's Petition Challenging the Reclassification of Long-Tailed Macaques

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Standards and Petitions Committee has accepted the National Association for Biomedical Research (NABR) formal petition challenging the IUCN's 2022 designation of long-tailed macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*) as "Endangered." NABR's petition, filed with IUCN on September 11, 2023, concludes that the underlying scientific justification for the Endangered listing is "biased" and "not based upon the best available scientific information."

Prior to July 2022, long-tailed macaques were designated as "Vulnerable" by the IUCN. In 2022, the IUCN revised its designation of the long-tailed macaque to Endangered based upon a scientific review completed by the IUCN.

The NABR petition takes issue with conclusions reached by the IUCN and concludes that the IUCN assessment fails to present any evidence credible to support the reclassification of the species from vulnerable to endangered.

“The NABR scientific review team is pleased that the IUCN has accepted this petition, and that the IUCN Standards and Petitions Committee will objectively review this matter,” stated Dr. Ray Hilborn, a world-renowned scientist and member of NABR’s scientific review team.

“Given the lack of data on trends in abundance, and misrepresentation of the data that do exist in the IUCN assessment, we expect that the IUCN Standards and Petitions Committee will agree with our conclusions,” added Dr. Hilborn.

The IUCN SSC’s formal acceptance of NABR’s petition initiates an eight-week discussion between the IUCN and NABR to reach an agreement on the status of the long-tailed macaque. If no agreement is reached by the end of this period, each party will have 16 weeks to file a formal petition with the IUCN for consideration, deliberation, and a determination by the IUCN.

Long-tail macaques are the most widely used non-rodent species for drug development as well as for drug safety and efficacy testing. They are also extensively used in cancer research, immunology science, regenerative medicine, and genetic disease research.

Long-tailed macaques are considered an invasive species in many countries including Hong Kong, Indonesia, Mauritius, Papua New Guinea, and Thailand. For decades, Asian and African countries have bred specific pathogen-free long-tailed macaques and exported them to the United States and other countries for biomedical research.

“The NABR petition demonstrates that by all objective measures long-tailed macaques are not an endangered species, but rather a highly invasive one that thrives both in wild

and humanized habitats in the majority of countries where they live,” stated Matthew R. Bailey, president of the National Association for Biomedical Research.

“Combined with the existing nonhuman primate shortage and restrictions on the importation of long-tailed macaques from Cambodia, the IUCN assessment, which is based on incomplete scientific data, could severely compromise America’s R&D sector, our economy, and our quality of life,” added Mr. Bailey.

More information regarding the NABR petition is available online at www.nabr.org.

FEDERAL

Senate HELP Committee Hearing: Dr. Bertagnolli for Director of the NIH

On Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 10 a.m., the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee will hold a hearing on the nomination of Dr. Monica Bertagnolli to be the next director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Dr. Bertagnolli was first nominated by President Biden on May 15, 2023. Dr. Bertagnolli is currently the director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

Additional information can be found [here](#).

The hearing can be accessed [here](#).

OLAW Annual Reports Due

Annual reports for the reporting period of Oct. 1, 2022, through Sept. 30, 2023, are due to OLAW by Dec. 1, 2023, for domestic institutions with an approved Domestic Animal Welfare Assurance.

Information to be reported includes:

- *any change in the institution’s AAALAC International accreditation status*

- *any change in the institution's animal care program and use as described in PHS Policy section IV.A.1.a-i.*
- *any change in the Institutional Official or the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) membership.*
- *dates that the IACUC conducted its semiannual evaluations of the program and facilities.*
- *any minority view by an IACUC member.*

The official notice can be seen [here](#).

The annual report to OLAW webpage can be accessed [here](#).

OLAW Appoints Acting Director

Following the retirement of Dr. Pat Brown, OLAW has appointed Dr. Axel Wolff as acting director. Dr. Wolff joined OLAW in 1999 and has served as the deputy director of OLAW since 2017. He received his veterinary degree from the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine and holds a master's degree in zoology from the University of Wisconsin.

More information on OLAW's leadership can be found [here](#).

LEGAL

Wisconsin Judge Denies PETA Complaint

After a long process, a Dane County Circuit Court judge in Wisconsin denied a petition from the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), which targeted researchers at the Wisconsin National Primate Research Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

In 2022, PETA sought criminal charges against four staff members, alleging violations of a state animal welfare statute. The DA was unable to prove the case beyond a reasonable doubt given the information available to him from both parties.

Following the dismissal, the University of Wisconsin-Madison released the following statement.

While the university is pleased with the outcome, the institution remains deeply concerned that valuable UW–Madison employees had to endure the threat of criminal prosecution for more than a year. UW–Madison supports its researchers engaged in important, life-saving work. Animal research is highly regulated, with strong ethical guidelines, laws, and regulations in place to protect animal welfare. Federal agencies enforce those rules through oversight — including regular, unscheduled inspections.

UW–Madison, its researchers, and its skilled veterinarians remain committed to responsible and ethical studies of animals when they present the best opportunity to learn more about the complex biology of living organisms and develop new ways to treat and prevent disease — diseases such as diabetes, Alzheimer’s disease and cancer. It would be unethical to ignore those opportunities to prevent so much suffering among humans and animals.

The full press release can be read [here](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join NABR & FBR at the 2023 AALAS National Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah!

NABR is excited to announce our participation in this year’s AALAS National Meeting. NABR & FBR are looking forward to connecting with our NABR Update readers as well as FBR email readers.

Please come visit **NABR** at **booth #2816** and **FBR** at **booth #2818**. We would love to see and speak with each one of you and hear about how our organizations impacted your work.

The AALAS National Meeting will be held from Oct. 22-26, 2023.

Below is a list of the sessions NABR and FBR will be participating in:

Monday, Oct. 23

- 11 AM – 12PM: Animal Research and One Health: The Promise and the Peril
 - Speaker: Jerrold Tannenbaum

Tuesday, Oct. 24

- 11 AM – 12PM: Insights on Public Opinion About Animal Research for Effective Messaging
 - Speaker: Matthew R Bailey
- 1 PM – 5 PM: Crisis Communication & Media Training for Animal Research Institutions
 - Speakers: Kirk Leech & Eva Maciejewski

Wednesday, Oct. 25

- 3 PM – 5 PM: Ongoing Changes Within the Animal Research Oversight Environment
 - Speakers: Elizabeth C Theodorson, Neera V Gopee, Kathryn Bayne, Shannon T Marko, Dorothy Bailey, Matthew R Bailey, B Taylor Bennett

NABR Webinar: [Review of the Veterinary Consortium for Research Animal Care and Welfare \(VCRACW\) Guide Revision Survey](#)

Join us on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2023, when Dr. Kate Storves will **Review the Veterinary Consortium for Research Animal Care and Welfare (VCRACW) Guide Revision Survey**. The survey was developed as a means of providing specific input on what areas the user community thought should be prioritized in an effort to update the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (The Guide)*. In 2022, the survey was sent to members of ACLAM, ASLAP, APV, and AALAS. Respondents were asked to rank the top three chapters in order of most in need of revision to least. Next, the respondents were asked to rank the sections within each chapter in most need of revision to least. The survey also included open-ended questions asking respondents to describe key issues that needed to be revised by chapter and what new sections or topics they would like to see addressed and to include any applicable references. Based upon the results of that survey, a five-question survey was sent to the ACLAM membership prior to the 2023 forum. The results of both the initial survey and the five-question survey will be presented in this webinar. In addition, we are requesting that you participate in a six-

question survey, which includes a question on your role in your institution's animal care and use program, that can be found [here](#).

You do not have to sign up for the webinar to complete the survey. So please complete the survey. Since the responses to the survey will be forwarded to the Standing Committee, your response could help determine the priorities for revising *The Guide*. All responses will be added to data previously generated, so it is important that you only respond if you have not responded to the original survey or to the one conducted prior to the ACLAM Forum.

Register for the webinar [here](#).

AAALAC International Appoints Dr. Helen Diggs as Senior Director for North America

Dr. Helen Diggs was recently appointed as the new senior director for North America. The senior director is responsible for leading and overseeing AAALAC's accreditation activities in North America, including managing site visits and providing education and outreach activities for North American conferences and meetings.

NABR congratulates Dr. Diggs on her new role at AAALAC International.

AAALAC's press release is available [here](#).

AAALAC International Seeks Global Director

AAALAC is currently seeking candidates for a global director position.

Job Details: The Global Director is responsible for overseeing the accreditation program globally as well as serving as one of the staff members representing AAALAC International and promoting AAALAC's mission worldwide. The Global Director assists the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in implementing the policies and programs of the organization. All accreditation activities are coordinated with the Council on Accreditation, in consultation with the CEO, in accord with the Rules of Accreditation and bylaws. The Global Director works under minimal supervision from the CEO and supervises the Senior Director for North America, the Senior Director for Europe, Latin America, Africa and Middle East, the Senior Director for Southeast Asia and the Assistant Director for Accreditation.

Requirements: *An in-depth understanding of, and experience in, the AAALAC International accreditation program and the role of AAALAC in assessing and accrediting animal care and use programs in a diversity of countries is critical and required. Knowledge and familiarity with the organization and operation of research animal programs worldwide is required. Demonstrated experience in the management and administration of animal care and use programs is highly desirable. A veterinary medical degree is required; board certification in laboratory animal medicine is highly desired. Candidates should possess a familiarity with international policies and regulations relating to animal research and; an ability to articulate and defend the humane care and appropriate use of animals in research, testing and education to differing constituencies.*

Additional information is available [here](#).

Interested candidates should send a **cover letter, curriculum vitae, and the names, titles, and addresses of three references** to: hrjobs@marcumllp.com with “Global Director” in the subject line.

Screening will begin Oct. 20, 2023, and will remain open until the position is filled.

SCAW's 2023 In-person Annual Winter Conference

The Scientists Center for Animal Welfare will hold its annual winter conference titled "Advancing Animal Welfare and Science: Processes and Principals" on Dec. 4-5 in San Antonio, Texas.

Topics to be discussed include:

- One Health and Animal Research: The Opportunities, Pitfalls, and Perils
- What Makes a Great Protocol?
- The CUSP Sharing Site – A Collaborative Community Database
- Are You Up to Date with OLAW, APHIS, and AAALAC International: Q & A for You and Me
- The 3Rs Collaborative: Better Science – for Both People and Animal
- Results of the 2022 VCRACW Guide Revision Priority Survey and Discussion

- Zebrafish: what IACUCs Need to Know
- Sound Public Policy

Early registration ends Oct. 31, 2023, and hotel cutoff is Nov.11, 2023.

Registration and additional information can be found [here](#).