

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
ANIMAL WELFARE AND ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

Monday, 8th February 2016

1. Minutes

Confirmed: The minutes of the meeting held on 7th December 2015.

2. Matters arising

Review of Biological Services (*actum* 2.2)

Reported: That the report and recommendations of the Review of Biological Services had been approved by the Board of Governors and the aim was that it should be implemented by September 2016.

3. Report on licences processed 26.11.15 to 29.01.16

Reported: (a) That the following amendments to project licences had been approved by the executive group:

40/3689	Studies in small animal models of heart disease.
70/7992	The effects of deletion of IL-1 family members on neointimal thickening in mice.
70/8548	see <i>actum</i> 4.5 below
40/3513	Type 2 immunity in infection and tissue homeostasis
70/8127	Immunoregulation during parasitic Helminth infection
70/7838	Embryo development and implantation.

(b) Amendments to 40/3409, Generation, breeding and maintenance of genetically altered animals:

To generate a mouse model for congenital heart defects.
To generate a floxed-USP7 mouse using CRISPR/CASS technology

(c) Amendments to 40/3619, Creation, breeding and maintenance of genetically altered rodents:

To investigate the fate of ETV2⁺ cell populations throughout haematopoietic development.

To determine the consequences of SCL/LM01

(c) That for Personal Licences there were 30 new licences, 7 amendments, 27 surrendered and 0 renewed.

4. Applications for new Project Licences

4.1 Genetic Analysis of Tumour Development

Considered: A completed AWERB1 form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO, detailed protocols and the project plan.

Interviewed:

- Noted:*
- (a) That this was a continuation of a previous licence
 - (b) There were 5 protocols, all moderate
 - (c) Refinement: Compared with the previous licence less animals were used and the procedures were less invasive.
 - (d) There were typographical errors in the amounts of medication administered to animals in protocols 2 and 3
 - (e) Some aspects of the NTS could be re-written in lay language. A Committee member offered to help with this.

Resolved: To recommend approval, subject to corrections arising from (d) and (e) above.

4.2 Pathophysiology of Heart Failure

Considered: A completed AWERB1 form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO, detailed protocols and the project plan.

Interviewed:

- Noted:*
- (a) That this was a continuation of a previous licence
 - (b) That there were 6 protocols with one new procedure
 - (c) Compared with the previous licence there had been a reduction in the number of animals needed. The applicant had also been collaborating with other institutions to ensure that unused tissue could be put to good research use.
 - (d) That the applicant explained the infection control measures taken to prevent any transfer of infection with 'used' pacemakers.
 - (e) That AWERB congratulated the applicant on the excellent presentation of the AWERB1 form, and there was discussion about how advice on how to write licence and AWERB applications might be disseminated to researchers.

Resolved: To recommend approval.

4.3 *Healing Mechanisms of Thermal Injury Wounds*

Considered: A completed AWERB1 form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO, detailed protocols and the project plan.

Interviewed:

Noted:

- (a) That this was a continuation of a previous licence.
- (b) That there were two protocols, both moderate.
- (c) Compared with the previous licence there had been significant refinement through the reduction in the number of dressings needed.

Resolved: To recommend approval.

4.4 *Development of new models of FTLD/MND*

Considered: A completed AWERB1 form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO, detailed protocols and the project plan.

Interviewed:

Noted:

- (a) That this was continuation of a previous licence.
- (b) That there were 2 moderate protocols.
- (c) That the procedures were behavioural not invasive and were less stressful than under the previous licence.
- (d) That the applicant would monitor the animals carefully (by observing social interaction and feeding among other things) to ensure that the phenotypes did not show any adverse effects.

Resolved: To recommend approval.

4.5 *Type 2 Immunity in infection and tissue homeostasis*

Considered: A completed AWERB1 form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO, detailed protocols and the project plan.

Noted:

- (a) That the applicant was transferring from another University to the University of Manchester and that the move of her research team to Manchester represented a significant addition to the University's research effort in the study in inflammation control.

- (b) The applicant was experienced in the techniques used in the experiments and members of the research team had attended local training courses in Manchester.
- (c) It was explained that a jird was a type of gerbil often used in laboratory work.
- (d) It was agreed to invite the applicant to a future meeting.

Resolved: To recommend approval.

5. Projects for Review

5.1 Gene Transfer within the Cardiovascular System

Considered: A completed AWERB Rev form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO,

Noted: That so far there had been negative findings and the applicant wanted to change direction provided he could get funding.

Resolved: To encourage the publication of negative results and to consider the termination of the project with the review report re-written as a final report.

[*Note:* Shortly after the meeting the applicant reported that he had received an agreement to continue funding the project and that he would submit a new review form for the next meeting]

5.2 Healing Mechanisms of Thermal Injury Wounds.

Considered: A completed AWERB Rev form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO, detailed protocols and the project plan.

Noted: (a) That good progress had been made.

(b) That the number of animals used was less than had been applied for, but it was explained that numbers needed tended to over-estimated in order to avoid seeking Home Office amendments to the licence.

Resolved: To approve the report and approve continuation.

5.3 Pathology and Treatment of Neurological Diseases.

Considered: A completed AWERB Rev form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO, detailed protocols and the project plan.

Noted: That good progress had been made.

Resolved: To approve the report and approve continuation.

5.4 *Studies on Small Animal Models of Heart Disease*

Considered: A completed AWERB Rev form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO, detailed protocols and the project plan.

Noted: That good progress had been made and end points clarified. The attribute of some publications to this project licence, rather than the previous one, was, however, questioned.

Resolved: To approve the report and approve continuation, subject to the verification of the publications to be attributed to this project.

5.5 *New Therapeutic Approaches For Inflammatory Joint Disorders*

Considered: A completed AWERB Rev form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO, detailed protocols and the project plan.

Noted: That good progress had been made and there had been no significant adverse effects. However, it was important that negative results should be published and section 3 needed to be more positive

Resolved: To approve the report and approve continuation, subject to re-writing section 3 of the report.

5.6 *The Impact of Co-Morbidities on Alzheimer's Disease*

Considered: A completed AWERB Rev form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO, detailed protocols and the project plan.

Noted: That good progress had been made. The project was based on behavioural work and concerns had been raised.

Resolved: To approve the report and approve continuation.

5.7 *Inflammation and Epilepsy*

Considered: A completed AWERB Rev form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO, detailed protocols and the project plan.

Noted: That good progress had been made but further funding was being sought. A refinement had been the use of zebra fish.

Resolved: To approve the report and approve continuation.

5.8 Controlling the Adaptive Immune Response

Considered: A completed AWERB Rev form, with written comments by the NVS, NACWO and NTCO, detailed protocols and the project plan.

Noted: That good progress had been made. The work, however, was largely done in another University and no problems reported.

Resolved: To approve the report and approve continuation.

6. Proposal to create AWERB Hubs

The Chair reported that the Home Office proposed to set up 12 regional AWERB hubs, with one University acting as the hub for the NW and NE of England, and 21 AWERBs within this region. The names and locations of AWERBs were unknown, but two Establishment Licence Holders had agreed that 21 appeared to be significantly higher than other regions and were therefore suggesting that the proposed region should be split into NW and NE.

7. Report on RSPCA Lay Members' Forum

The following documents had been circulated to AWERB members:

A report on the Lay Members' Forum held on 8th December 2015
Slides of the presentations made to the Forum
A copy of a 'State of the AWERB survey' conducted by the Forum.

A Committee member commented that AWERB might wish to consider having an induction pack and training for AWERB members.

8. Expired Project Licence

Reported: (a) That a project licence had expired recently, but the deadline had been reached without there being enough forewarning for an application for a new licence to be prepared in a timely way. All work on the project ceased by the termination date so there was no breach of regulations. It also coincided with a natural break in the work, so no animals had been culled.

(b) That the Home Office had ceased to issue warning messages about an approaching expiry date and there was no internal system for issuing alerts. This was now being corrected.

(c) That the licence holder was preparing an application for a replacement project licence and the Home Office had agreed that this would be treated as a matter of urgency.

Agreed: That, exceptionally, the AWERB1 application form for the project, *Understanding vision, developing therapies*, once completed, should be circulated to members electronically for comment and approval.