



# Coalition For Animals & Animal Research CFAAR Arizona Newsletter

P.O. Box 210101, Tucson, AZ 85721-0101 (520)621-3931

Vol 17, No 1 Editor: Grace Aranda (antrnweb@ahsc.arizona.edu)

## Time to Join or Renew Your Membership

To Join Arizona CFAAR, or to renew your membership, please fill out the membership form on the back page. Your donations publish our newsletter and educational materials and will be used to expand our webpages. A year's subscription is included with your contribution.

### In this issue...

Terrorism Law Reverberates in Spence .....	1
Primate Center Hits Legal Snag .....	2
Cats Can Succumb To Feline Alzheimer's Disease .....	3
Compound in Dairy Products Targets Diabetes .....	4
Knockout Mouse Project: .....	5
Bioscience Push Paying Off .....	6
Group Forms to Champion Covance .....	7
Bioscientist Groups Cheer Covance .....	7
Become a Friend of SwAEBR .....	9
Membership Application .....	10

### Terrorism Law Reverberates in Spence

By Terry McCoy

In a night, a lifetime's worth of work evaporated. Computers were doused with hazardous chemicals. Walls peppered with animal-rights slogans. And then the lives of loved ones jeopardized through veiled threats. Such was the plight of UI researchers who endured the Spence Laboratories break-in of November 2004. The perpetrators remain at large. And now, with a scribble of President Bush's pen, future similar acts will be labeled as terrorism.

On Monday, Bush signed the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act, which will broaden current laws to grant greater protection to scientists, medical researchers, ranchers, farmers - all those who regularly work with animals - and their loved ones. Among other mandates, the bill calls for increased punishment of assailants who harm animal-handlers with "force, violence, and threats involving animal enterprises," which include zoos, research labs, circuses, and farms with livestock. Because protesters who "instill in another the reasonable fear of death or serious bodily injury" can be fined upwards of \$100,000 and imprisoned for five years, civil-liberties advocates have criticized the bill as an infringement on First Amendment free-speech rights.

Paul Cooper, the UI director of the Office of Animal Resources, said defining the vandalism as terrorism would be erroneous. But he draws the line when the assailants threatened his - and his colleague's - families. That was terrorism, he said. Cooper later said he does not believe any legislative measure would have prevented the lab incident.

Yet animal activists have concerns beyond the Bill of Rights. UI graduate student Will McBride, who represents the UI Farm Animal Welfare Network, said he fears all activists may be categorized as terrorists. "Certainly, no one is advocating that breaking the law is OK," he said. "But bringing attention to things through civil disobedience is legal. [But this act] fuels a certain energy to automatically discount things as terrorism when they are certainly not."

Regardless of the law's constitutionality, for the UI researchers at Spence Laboratories, Bush signed the bill two years too late. In an e-mail written to local media the week following the Spence break-in, members of an

### CFAAR: Who We Are

CFAAR is a nonprofit educational organization which formed in response to activists who were attempting to discredit animal research and animal researchers in 1988. Several local CFAAR chapters have since sprung up across the country.

CFAAR chapters share the following objectives:

- To **organize** students, faculty, and staff at institutions where animal research is performed so effective letter writing campaigns can be initiated quickly.
- To **educate** the public, in general, and the campus, in particular, about the true nature of animal research and animal researchers.
- To **support** responsible and humane use of animals in biomedical research.

Through our newsletter, we will help inform you about legislation and other "happenings" concerning attacks on animal research. Our goal is to make it as easy as possible to contact your Washington, D.C. representatives.

The key to the effectiveness of this organization is you! We need your willingness to write an occasional letter, perhaps talk with a school group and, of course, give a few dollars to cover the cost of printing the newsletter and educational materials.

**HELP SUPPORT CFAAR  
SO WE CAN SUPPORT YOU**

extremist group called the Animal Liberation Front took responsibility for the vandalism. They threatened malice on animal researchers and then listed the names, office locations, home addresses, phone numbers, and names of spouses of Spence scientists. "Let this message be clear to all who victimize the innocent: We're watching," the e-mail stated. "And by ax, drill, or crowbar - we're coming through your door. Stop or be stopped."

Some at Spence Laboratories are still looking over their shoulders, Cooper said. The passing of the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act may marginally dull the blade of paranoia in the labs, but the shock of the break-in is not easily dispelled, he said. "I didn't think this sort of thing would have happened here," Cooper said. "We run a good program here - a good research program. I never expected anyone to break in."

FBI Special Agent Jonathan Robitaille of the agency's Omaha bureau said the case remains open. "We are investigating it," he said, declining to comment on any specifics. "We are working late. The investigation is pending, and we are investigating leads."

(Daily Iowan, 11/29/06)

## **Primate Center Hits Legal Snag**

By Lynn Heidmann

The University of Wisconsin campus may become home to the nation's first-ever animal rights exhibition hall, as a judge ruled Monday in favor of a Madison-based animal rights group in a longstanding property dispute. The controversy started when Primate Freedom Project signed a contract to purchase a small warehouse between two UW primate research labs from local business owner Roger Charly. However, Charly later tried to back out of the deal when the university offered him more money for the property.

The dispute remained unresolved until yesterday, when Dane County Judge Sarah O'Brien ruled in favor of the original contract and ordered Charly to sell the warehouse for \$675,000 to the Primate Freedom Project. The warehouse is located on Capitol Court, near the intersection of Regent and Charter streets. "I was surprised by the ruling," Freedom Project founder Rick Bogle said in an interview. "We have believed that the contract is valid, but we also understand the influence the University of Wisconsin has over local politics." According to Bogle, the goal of the exhibition hall would be to educate the community, and eventually the country, on the cruel use of animals in scientific research.

The facility would feature photographs, videos, interactive exhibits and examples of devices used in the lab, specifically with monkeys in biomedical research. Bogle also said the project would bring in speakers from around the world to lead forums and workshops on animal cruelty. "Our immediate audience is the university community, then Madison, Dane County, the

state of Wisconsin, and then the U.S.," he said. "We think a fully informed electorate would demand these [research] labs be closed." Bogle added other animal rights projects are temporary, but said the exhibition hall would be an "open-ended proposition" and would create dialogue about primate freedom.

UW physiology professor Joseph Kemnitz, director of the Wisconsin Regional Primate Center, said the case is a "continuing process," and noted it is likely Charly will appeal the decision. And Kemnitz added any definite plans for completion of the animal rights exhibition hall would be "premature," since the university also has ideas for the development of the property. "Judge O'Brien's decision today represented the completion of one step in the process," he said. "We have been eager to purchase the property so we could use it to expand our facilities. The property is valuable to us for other reasons besides stopping the animal rights group."

In an interview with The Badger Herald earlier this month, UW Associate Vice Chancellor Alan Fish went as far as to call the contested property "absolutely critical" to the future of primate research at UW. Kemnitz said for the animal rights activists, the whole process of purchasing the warehouse has been "an unexpected opportunity for them to cause trouble." According to Kemnitz, the Primate Freedom Project chose the location between the UW primate centers specifically to gain publicity and attention. "I think [the ruling] is just part of a continuing process," Kemnitz said. "There will be more developments to come."

If Charly decides not to appeal, which even Bogle said is unlikely, the exhibition hall could be able to open its doors as early as this spring. But with the appeal, he added, plans for the facility would be delayed more than a year. "The university ... will probably be embarrassed to have the [animal rights] debate take place at the steps where this is going on," Bogle said. "They will probably try to delay this every step of the way." Charly, who owns the Budget Bicycle Center on Regent Street, did not return repeated phone calls seeking comment as of press time.

Current research in UW's primate labs focus on aging and metabolic disease studies, including obesity and Parkinson's disease; immunogenetics and virology studies, including investigation of possible HIV/AIDS vaccines; and reproduction and development studies, including embryonic stem-cell biology and maternal-fetal health. The Wisconsin National Primate Research Center is one of eight federally funded primate centers in the nation and the only one in the Midwest.

(The Badger Herald, 11/28/06)

## **Canine Breast Cancer Survivor Comforts Patients Facing The Same Disease**

When four-legged Margie reports for duty at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center her ID badge is always prominently displayed, dangling from her POOCH volunteer program scarf. The blue scarf also carries a pink ribbon pin that signifies breast cancer awareness. Margie

the canine is, after all, a cancer survivor-an experience she gladly shares with women she visits in the hospital who face the same life-altering situation. "People can't believe that Margie had a mastectomy-they've never heard of that," says volunteer coordinator Barbara Cowen, who schedules the dog's visits with patients. "When patients see Margie, they say, 'Look at the little dog's scars - and look how well she's doing!' It lifts their spirits. She's like a bright light."

One patient even called after discharge to request a picture of the Boston terrier-French bulldog mix that inspired her during a difficult time. "The woman had just looked at her own scar and felt so low," recalls Margie's owner, Jennifer Gendron, who was happy to send the photograph.

Gendron knew there was something special about Margie the moment they met four years ago. The black, white and brindle mix was a rescue dog with no known history, not even her age. "She was like a little old lady, so lovable," says Gendron, who discovered that her new family member was a 'mature' 10-year-old, not the youngster she was told. "The name 'Margie' just fit."

Gendron had had Margie for only a few months when she discovered small, hard lumps-"like BB's," she says--on the dog's chest. A biopsy revealed cancer, and a mastectomy was scheduled. "The vet removed as much as possible-it was major surgery," explains Gendron, who says the incision stretched from neck to groin. "There are large scars on Margie's belly and breast."

Fortunately, the "sassy little thing" recovered quickly and was soon back with Gendron at her Beverly Hills spa, where Margie-known for her perky personality and colorful collection of vintage scarves-is a favorite with clients. In fact, it was a spa client who told Gendron about the POUCH program at Cedars-Sinai, which stands for Pets Offer Ongoing Care and Healing. "I wanted to volunteer because Margie is such a people dog, a real ham," explains Gendron.

When Margie came to the hospital for her "interview," six months ago, Cowen fell in love with the dog and her story, she says. "Her unique situation seemed to make Margie a perfect fit to volunteer with cancer patients." Since then, Margie and Gendron have spent every other Wednesday visiting patients. "The moment we arrive, Margie perks up," Gendron says. "She plops on the bed, to lavish affection on the patients. It's odd that she seems so calm and comfortable in the hospital. Sometimes she even falls asleep next to patients." Adds Gendron: "Margie seems to know that she's needed, like it's her job. When she comes home she's exhausted and conks out. She gives the patients all she has."

Margie is one of 45 dogs that volunteer, along with their owners, in Cedars-Sinai's POUCH program. First introduced in the rehabilitation unit in 1992, the program later expanded to the HIV/AIDS, medical and surgical, cardiology and pediatrics units. "It takes a special dog with the right personality to volunteer to help

hospital patients," Cowen explains. "The dog should be outgoing with strangers and not easily distracted by noises or other commotion. And you need selfless owners, because they never get the attention that their dogs do."

Gendron speaks for both herself and Margie (of course) when she says that volunteering with the Cedars-Sinai POUCH program "feels so good-like we've really contributed to someone's day."

(Medical News Today, 10/1/06)

## **Study Shows Cats Can Succumb To Feline Alzheimer's Disease**

Aging cats can develop a feline form of Alzheimer's disease, a new study reveals. Scientists at the Universities of Edinburgh, St Andrews, Bristol and California have identified a key protein which can build up in the nerve cells of a cat's brain and cause mental deterioration. In humans with Alzheimer's disease, this protein creates 'tangles' inside the nerve cells which inhibit messages being processed by the brain. The team says that the presence of this protein in cats is proof that they too can develop this type of disease. By carrying out post-mortem examination of cats which have succumbed naturally to the disease, scientists may now be able to uncover vital clues about how the condition develops. This may eventually help scientists to come up with possible treatments.

Scientists already thought cats were susceptible to dementia because previous research had identified thick, gritty plaques on the outside of elderly cats' brain cells which are similar to those found in humans. But, by pinpointing this second key marker, the Edinburgh-led team says we can be sure that cats can suffer from a feline form of Alzheimer's. Dr Danielle Gunn-Moore, at the University of Edinburgh's Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, said: "This newly discovered protein is crucial to our understanding of the aging process in cats. We've known for a long time that cats develop dementia, but this study tells us that the cat's neural system is being compromised in a similar fashion to that we see in human Alzheimer's sufferers. The gritty plaques had only hinted that might be the case -- now we know."

"The shorter life-span of a cat, compared to humans, allows researchers to more rapidly assess the effects of diet, high blood pressure, and prescribed drugs on the course of the disease. However, we also need to understand more about our geriatric cats for their own benefit, so we can slow down the degeneration the disease brings and keep them as happy cats for as long as possible." "As with humans, the life expectancy of cats is increasing and with this longer life runs the greater chance of developing dementia. Recent studies suggest that 28% of pet cats aged 11-14 years develop at least one old-age related behaviour problem and this increases to more than 50% for cats over the age of 15."

Experts suggest that good diet, mental stimulation and companionship can reduce the risk of dementia in both humans and cats. Dr Gunn-Moore explained: "If humans and their cats live in a poor environment with little company and stimulation, they are both at higher risk of dementia. However, if the owner plays with the cat, it is good for both human and cat. A good diet enriched with antioxidants is also helpful in warding off dementia, so a cat owner sharing healthy meals like chicken and fish with their pet will benefit them both."

Dr Gunn-Moore, at the School of Biology, University of St Andrews, said: "This work relied on a team effort with the different skills and expertise from our different institutions. It has given us an insight into the molecular changes that are occurring in the degenerating brain. From this knowledge we are now currently trying to develop new and novel treatments which will be able to help both cats and humans". The findings of the study are published in a recent edition of the *Journal of Feline Medicine*.

(Science Daily, 12/6/06)

### **Compound in Dairy Products Targets Diabetes**

Fatty acids commonly found in dairy products have successfully treated diabetes in mice, according to a researcher at Penn State. The compounds, known as conjugated linoleic acids (CLA), also have shown promising results in human trials, signaling a new way of potentially treating the disease without synthetic drugs. "The compounds are predominantly found in dairy products such as milk, cheese and meat, and are formed by bacteria in ruminants that take linoleic acids -- fatty acids from plants -- and convert them into conjugated linoleic acids, or CLA," said Jack Vanden Heuvel, professor of molecular toxicology in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences and co-director of Penn State's Center of Excellence in Nutrigenomics.

Researchers first became interested in CLA when it was shown to inhibit a variety of cancers such as breast, skin and colon in mice, and further research showed effects on circulating cholesterol and inflammation. These effects are the same as the newest generation of synthetic drugs used to treat diabetes in humans.

These synthetic drugs act by triggering a set of nuclear receptors called PPAR. In addition to being targets for a variety of clinically effective drugs, PPARs belong to a large family of proteins, and their biological purpose is to sense fatty acids and fatty acid metabolites within the cell, said Vanden Heuvel.

When the synthetic drugs interact with these protein receptors, it turns the receptor "on," making it an active form of the protein, which then interacts with DNA and regulates gene expression. This increases the enzymes that process fatty acids and also increases the tissues' sensitivity to insulin. "We wondered if CLA was

using the same mechanism, in which case it could be used as an anti-diabetes drug," Vanden Heuvel said.

To test the idea, he used CLA on mice prone to adult onset (Type-2) diabetes. Results indicated that the mice had an improvement in insulin action, and a decrease in circulating glucose. Also, the mechanism was indeed similar to that of the drugs. "Anti-diabetes drugs act the same way. They mimic the natural activators of the receptors by getting into the cell and interacting with the PPARs to regulate glucose and fat metabolism," said Vanden Heuvel.

Early human trials indicate that when administered for longer than eight weeks, CLA improves the body's misregulation of insulin and lowers the level of glucose in the blood in patients with adult onset, or Type-2 diabetes, the most common form of this disease.

However, Vanden Heuvel cautioned that while having a diet that is high in dairy and meat products, and thereby CLA, might have a health benefit, one also must be aware of other lipids present in these products, such as trans fatty acids. Instead, he suggested that in addition to a well-balanced diet, it is advantageous to incorporate CLA as a dietary supplement, or to seek out new products that enrich foods such as butter, margarine and ice cream with CLA. "Adult-onset diabetes is fast becoming an epidemic and is largely associated with poor diet and nutrition and other lifestyle issues," Vanden Heuvel said. The reason for the increase in diabetes may have to do with the ratio of so-called "good" and "bad" fats, with the average American diet containing too much of the "bad" fats. CLA, whose effect is very similar to fish oil, a source of "good" fat, could prove beneficial against Type-2 diabetes. "And compared to the synthetic drugs used to treat this disease, CLA does not cause weight gain and may in fact decrease overall body fat," said Vanden Heuvel, who has been granted a patent on the new method of treating diabetes with CLA.

(Penn State Univ, 8/2/06)

### **Knockout Mouse Project: Genome-wide, Public Resource Will Provide New Mouse Models For Understanding Human Disease**

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) today awarded a set of cooperative agreements, totaling up to \$52 million over five years, to launch the Knockout Mouse Project. The goal of this program is to build a comprehensive and publicly available resource of knockout mutations in the mouse genome. The knockout mice produced from this resource will be extremely useful for the study of human disease.

The NIH Knockout Mouse Project will work closely with other large-scale efforts to produce knockouts that are underway in Canada, called the North American Conditional Mouse Mutagenesis Project (NorCOMM), and in Europe, called the European Conditional Mouse Mutagenesis Program (EUCOMM). The objective of all these programs is to create a mutation in each of the

approximately 20,000 protein-coding genes in the mouse genome.

"Knockout mice are powerful tools for exploring the function of genes and creating animal models of human disease. By enabling more researchers to study these knockouts, this trans-NIH initiative will accelerate our efforts to translate basic research findings into new strategies for improving human health," said NIH Director Elias A. Zerhouni, M.D. "It is exciting that so many components of NIH have joined together to support this project, and that the NIH Knockout Mouse Project will be working hand-in-hand with other international efforts. This is scientific teamwork at its best."

Knockout mice are lines of mice in which specific genes have been completely disrupted, or "knocked out." Systematic disruption of each of the 20,000 genes in the mouse genome will allow researchers to determine the role of each gene in normal physiology and development. Even more importantly, researchers will use knockout mice to develop better models of inherited human diseases such as cancer, heart disease, neurological disorders, diabetes and obesity. Recent advances in recombinant DNA technologies, as well as completion of the mouse genome sequence, now make this project feasible.

NIH today awarded five-year cooperative agreements totaling up to \$47.2 million to two groups for the creation of the knockout mice lines. Recipients of those awards are Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., in Tarrytown, N.Y., and a collaborative team from Children's Hospital Oakland Research Institute (CHORI) in Oakland, Calif., the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis (UC Davis); and the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute in Hinxton, England.

In addition, NIH awarded another five-year cooperative agreement totaling \$2.5 million to the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine for the establishment of an NIH Knockout Mouse Project data coordination center. Finally, NIH awarded cooperative agreements to the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia and to the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute of Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto to improve the efficiency of methods for creating knockout lines. Those agreements total about \$2.5 million and run for three and two years, respectively.

"Building a genome-wide library of knockouts will require the skills of researchers from many different disciplines. We are confident that the multi-institution team we have pulled together will meet that challenge and deliver this much-needed resource into the hands of the worldwide research community," said James Battey, M.D., Ph.D., director of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) and co-chair of the Trans-NIH Genomic Resources Working Group.

To date, academic researchers around the world have created mouse knockouts of about 4,000 genes. In addition, a random disruption strategy has been used by the International Gene Trap Consortium

to mutate 8,000 mouse genes. Due to some overlap between these efforts, about 15,000 genes remain to be knocked out in the mouse genome.

The NIH program, along with NorCOMM and EUCOMM, intend to closely coordinate their efforts in order to avoid redundancy and maximize the efficiency of generating knockouts for all genes in the mouse genome. Furthermore, the U.S., Canadian and European groups are committed to making their data and resources rapidly and openly available to researchers around the world.

"The international projects will exchange information and coordinate their efforts in much the same way that teams from many nations collaborated on the International Human Genome Project," said Colin Fletcher, Ph.D., a program director at the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), which will oversee administration of three of the five cooperative agreements that form the core of the Knockout Mouse Project.

Under its cooperative agreement, the team led by Pieter deJong, Ph.D., CHORI, along with K. C. Kent Lloyd, D.V.M., Ph.D., UC Davis; and Allan Bradley, Ph.D. FRS, and William Skarnes, Ph.D., at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, plans to systematically create mouse embryonic stem (ES) cell lines in which 5,000 genes have been knocked out by gene targeting. The VelociGene division of Regeneron, led by David Valenzuela, Ph.D. and George D. Yancopoulos, M.D., Ph.D., will take aim at a different set of 3,500 genes. Both groups will utilize information from the finished mouse genome sequence to design targeting vectors, which will be built by large-scale, automated technologies. The combined collection of mouse ES cells with knockouts in 8,500 genes will be useful for producing knockout mice.

Other researchers will be able to obtain the ES cells and the vectors, which can be used to swiftly and efficiently to make live lines of knockout mice for use in biomedical studies. During the initial phase of the project, the ES cell lines and vectors used to mutate the genes will be available from the grantees who produced them. In addition, NIH is preparing to issue a solicitation for a program to implement a Knockout Mouse Project repository, which will be funded in the next year and through which all these materials will be available to the entire scientific community.

Another crucial component of the effort will be the collection and coordination of data. Under the leadership of Martin Ringwald, Ph.D., the Jackson Laboratory will set up a Data Coordination Center for the Knockout Mouse Project. The center will collect information that will allow the research community to track the scheduling and progress of knockout production. The center will also serve as a central information resource for all publicly available knockout mutants and will integrate with other databases that contain mouse DNA sequence, additional information on mouse genetics and information on the physical and biochemical characteristics of the knockout mice.

Under two cooperative agreements administered by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), Klaus Kaestner, Ph.D., and his colleagues at the University of

Pennsylvania will focus on developing methods to create ES cell lines suitable for high-throughput gene targeting or trapping in C57BL/6, the strain of mouse used most widely by the scientific community. They will be joined in this effort by Andras Nagy, Ph.D., and his colleagues at the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute. In addition, Regeneron will receive funds to optimize its existing ES cell line for the C57BL/6 strain and its proprietary growth medium, both of which will be supplied to the CHORI-Led Team for Use in the Knockout Mouse Project.

"Development of ES cell lines that can be used to make mutants in the C57BL/6 strain will be an important step forward in capitalizing on the vast amount of information obtained from years of research already done in this mouse strain," said NIDA Director Nora D. Volkow, M.D.

While today's awards mark the official launch of the Knockout Mouse Project, NIH has been laying the foundation for several years. In the fall of 2003, NIH co-sponsored an international meeting that concluded that the time was right for a coordinated effort to produce knockouts in every mouse gene, and a commentary calling for such a project was published in the September 2004 issue of *Nature Genetics*.

In October 2005, NIH and the U.K.'s Wellcome Trust took the first concrete step by awarding contracts that gave academic researchers access to a set of well-characterized knockout mouse lines created by Deltagen, Inc. of San Carlos, Calif., and Lexicon Genetics, Inc. of The Woodlands, Texas. NIH has expended about \$11 million to acquire about 250 lines of these mice in the first year of the three-year contracts. Researchers can obtain information on what knockout mouse lines are available from this procurement and how to order them at: <http://www.nih.gov/science/models/mouse/deltagenlexicon/list.html>.

In June, NIH moved another step closer to its goal of a genome-wide library of knockout mice with the award of \$800,000 to two public mouse repositories for the acquisition of existing knockout mouse lines that are not yet widely accessible to researchers. The award recipients were the Mutant Mouse Regional Resource Centers at UC Davis and the University of Missouri/Harlan in Columbia, both supported by the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR). NIH anticipates that more than 350 existing mouse lines will be deposited and made available to the research community over the next two years as a result of this effort. Researchers can obtain information on what knockout mouse lines are available from this effort and how to order them at: <http://www.mmrrc.org/>

The 19 NIH institutes, centers and offices contributing to the Knockout Mouse Project are: NCRR, National Eye Institute, NHGRI, National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, National Institute on Aging, National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin

Diseases, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIDCD, National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, NIDA, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Institute of Mental Health, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease, National Cancer Institute, and the Office of AIDS Research.

(Medical News Today, 9/10/06)

## Bioscience Push Paying Off

By Ken Alltucker

Arizona's lucrative bet on the biosciences is yielding more high-wage jobs, federal research dollars and new buildings that are expected to birth scientific breakthroughs for decades to come. But the state needs to accomplish a lot more to establish a thriving research-based economy, particularly providing enough money, lab space and support that will allow small research companies to grow and prosper.

That's the assessment of Battelle Technology Partnership Practice, the Ohio-based research group that developed Arizona's bioscience roadmap in 2002 and monitors progress with annual updates. Battelle representatives said Arizona's challenge is that bioscience is an ultracompetitive field, and states across the nation are pursuing initiatives to bring the good-paying jobs that the sector promises. "Everybody has an interest in this," said Walt Plosila, a Battelle vice president. "Arizona is not going to be the equivalent of San Diego and Boston in all areas." Though Plosila said that if Arizona narrows its focus and invests wisely, "there are some real signature opportunities for Arizona to differentiate itself."

Among highlights of the Battelle report released:

- Arizona has made a lot or some progress on 16 of 19 education, funding and other goals of the 2002 roadmap.
- National Institutes of Health grants issued to Arizona-based institutions jumped 30 percent from 2002 through 2005. That funding growth outpaced the nation's top 10 research states.
- The state added about 10,700 bioscience jobs from 2001 through 2005. Many of those jobs paid well, too, with an average wage of \$45,182, compared with the average private-sector job that paid \$37,709.
- Arizona's venture-capital funding results were mixed. The state gets less than 1 percent of venture capital nationally, and it has collected just \$32.6 million this year, compared with last year's total of \$73.4 million. Still, private companies and researchers took in \$118 million in venture capital from 2003 through 2005, better than the roadmap's goal of \$100 million.

Arizona also has made progress in growing startup companies from universities and attracting out-of-state biotechnology companies such as New Jersey-based clinical-research company Covance and Canadian drug-development firm InNexus. The relocations of those two companies were among the highlights in a year that included the state Legislature's approval of \$35 million in funding that will be administered by Science Foundation Arizona and a \$50 million investment from the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust.

In all, the Flinn Foundation-funded roadmap calls for a decade-long investment of \$1.4 billion to establish a strong biosciences economy in Arizona. The two biggest pieces of that include state-approved expenditures of \$440 million for research facilities and another \$1 billion over two decades from Proposition 301, passed by voters in 2000 to bolster science and technology capacity at the state's public universities.

Plosila emphasized that more funding is needed to help small companies grow in Arizona. A roadmap recommendation that Arizona has failed to adopt is establishing a "bioseed fund" to invest in early-stage companies and research ideas. Other roadmap suggestions that were not adopted include establishing technology zones to encourage clusters of companies and allowing universities to invest in startups.

Plosila said another area that Arizona shows promise in is translational research, which describes moving discoveries from the lab to customers. By taking a narrow focus on translational research and other areas, Arizona has a better chance to join the ranks of the upper crust of research states.

Jeffrey Trent, scientific director of the Translational Genomics Research Institute, agreed that Arizona has the means to be a player in translational research. "We're moving that way," Trent said.

(AZ Republic, 12/6/06)

### **Group Forms to Champion Covance**

By Edythe Jensen

Former Chandler mayor Jim Patterson is stepping into the tense debate over drug-testing company Covance, forming a group to support the company's efforts to build in the city, as well as to attract other biotech firms.

Patterson, who served from 1980 to 1984 and helped lure Intel to the city, said Chandler should encourage Covance's plan to build one of its largest drug development facilities near Price and Germann roads. "It's the wave of the future and Chandler needs to be in the mix of it. It's the right fit for us." He said two other former mayors, Jerry Brooks and Ken Thomas, are also in the group, called Arizona Citizens United for Research and Employment or Arizona CURE.

National animal rights groups are pushing to stop Covance from building in Chandler because the

company uses animals in drug tests. This week, a Washington, D.C.-based physicians group mailed 23,000 DVDs to voters that feature alleged animal abuse.

(Arizona Republic, 9/27/06)

### **Bioscientist Groups Cheer Covance**

By Luci Scott

Covance executive Wendel Barr may be a target of fierce opposition from animal rights groups, but he's being treated as a rock star in the Valley's economic development community. Barr was showered with applause and good vibrations Tuesday morning at a get-together called Spotlight on Bioscience at the Wyndham Phoenix.

The event was sponsored by the Greater Phoenix Economic Council, the Arizona BioIndustry Association and the *Business Journal*. "Science and technology are going to be the key to the future of Arizona," said Barry Broome, GPEC's president and CEO. "This Covance project . . . has the potential for 2,000 jobs and is probably the largest bioscience project in the United States," said Broome, calling it "a major statement in the industry."

Covance, a global drug-testing company, has bought 50 acres in Chandler and plans to build a large facility near Chandler Municipal Airport. The company, which has drawn intense local and national opposition by groups claiming Covance is secretive and abuses its lab animals, was lauded Tuesday at the bioscience panel for its potential to bring jobs and tax revenue, and as a potential catalyst to lure other bioscience companies to metro Phoenix.

The Chandler facility will be a \$100 million project. "It could be one of the pre-eminent drug development centers in the world," Barr said. Covance customers visiting the facility means greater Phoenix will gain even more exposure, he said.

Other panel participants were Jeff Morhet, president and CEO of InNexus Biotechnology; Dan Wood, managing partner of Mesa Verde Venture Partners, and Jon McGarity, president and CEO of the Arizona BioIndustry Association.

(AZ Republic, 12/6/06)

### **Phony Animal-Rights 'Physicians Committee' Plays Chicken With California Lawsuits**

Seven California lawsuits filed yesterday against restaurants that serve grilled chicken are motivated by animal-rights ideology, the nonprofit Center for Consumer Freedom (CCF) said today. The deceptively named "Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine" (PCRM) is actually a wealthy animal rights group, not a mainstream health charity.

PCRM's goals include transitioning Americans to a strict vegetarian diet. And publicly available tax records show that two-thirds of the group's operating budget now comes from Nanci Alexander, an animal-rights millionaire who operates a Florida vegetarian restaurant. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) has also contributed over \$1.3 million.

Yesterday in Los Angeles, City News Service reported that the American Medical Association has in the past called PCRM an organization that uses "unethical tactics" and is "interested in perverting medical science." City News Service also noted that "a Newsweek article in February 2004 stated that less than 5 percent of its members are doctors and it has ties to the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, an animal rights group, which has drawn criticism for some of its tactics."

PCRM lead attorney Dan Kinburn, who filed the California lawsuits yesterday, has also appeared protesting alongside PETA activists against the use of animals by medical research laboratories. A photograph of Mr. Kinburn participating in such a PETA protest can be viewed at <http://www.consumerfreedom.com/kinburn.jpg>.

CCF Director of Research David Martosko said: "When will people realize that this phony 'physicians' group is just PETA with a lab coat? The animal rights activists at PCRM would rather save lab rats than cure cancer and AIDS. They don't deserve a say in whether or not anyone eats a chicken sandwich."

Martosko continued: "The federal government and the American Cancer Society agree that there's nothing dangerous about eating a chicken sandwich. But letting animal rights activists slowly force us into vegetarianism could be hazardous to everyone's health. The last time I checked, Americans were getting sick from spinach, not grilled chicken."

To learn more about the radical animal rights activists behind the misnamed Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, visit <http://www.PhysicianScam.com>. To schedule an interview, contact Sarah Longwell at +1-202-463-7112.

The Center for Consumer Freedom is a nonprofit coalition supported by restaurants, food companies, and consumers, working together to promote personal responsibility and protect consumer choices.

(Center for Consumer Freedom, 9/28/06)

### **Animal People's "Who Gets The Money" List**

Once again the animal rights monthly newspaper *Animal People* has published its annual analysis of IRS reports by key animal rights/animal welfare groups. For those extremist groups involved in campaigns against the use of animals in research, the money raised and the groups' net assets in FY2005 for the most part signified a banner year. In the cases of PETA and PCRM, donation amounts dropped, but taken in combination with their respective foundations which

are dedicated to supporting their parent organizations, PETA and PCRM easily held their own this year against last year's record amounts.

AMP has provided notes for significant changes from last year's categories.

As you review these numbers, keep in mind that groups such as SHAC, Hugs for Puppies, WAR and the Animal Defense League did not file tax documents for FY 2005, yet were responsible for the most visible attacks against research.

Also for your thoughts, I have first listed how Americans for Medical Progress placed in FY2005 in the categories noted by *Animal People*. Clearly, the animal rights forces have much more in the way of finances to wage their campaigns.

#### **Americans for Medical Progress/AMP**

- raised/earned: \$911,716
- budget: \$560,798
- programs: \$453,913
- overhead: \$106,885
- net assets: \$747,990

#### **ANIMAL RIGHTS GROUPS**

*(figures in parentheses show FY2004/FY2003/FY2002 budgets)*

##### **People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals/PETA**

- raised/earned: \$25,824,816 (note: down from FY2004's \$28,072,597)
- budget: \$26,596,090 (\$25,063,060 / \$16,414,174 / \$13,499,614 )
- programs: \$22,543,448
- overhead: \$4,052,642
- net assets: \$10,213,824 (note: down from FY2004's \$11,479,793)

##### **The PETA Foundation, formerly known as Foundation to Support Animal Protection/FSAP**

- raised/earned: \$4,344,639
- budget: \$4,642,496 (\$3,294,816 / \$2,192,281 / \$2,430,555 )
- programs: \$4,642,496
- overhead: \$0
- net assets: \$19,713,806

*(Note that PETA was apparently the main beneficiary of FSAP/The PETA Foundation in FY2005. Animal People has consistently noted that the Foundation serves as a place for PETA to locate some of its fundraising and management costs. From Animal People in 2005: "Attributing those costs to FSAP has the effect of concealing the true extent and nature of PETA spending and assets.")*

##### **Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine/PCRM**

- raised/earned: \$7,019,350
- budget: \$5,820,397 (\$10,683,823/\$2,667,912 /\$2,915,847)
- programs: \$4,823,699
- overhead: \$996,698
- net assets: \$2,368,403

**PCRM Foundation**

- raised/earned: \$6,113,198
- budget: \$4,650,000 (new foundation. \$1,616,079 in FY2004)
- programs: \$4,650,497
- overhead: \$ 0
- net assets: \$9,520,499

*(According to Animal People, the newly-created PCRM Foundation exists exclusively to perform services for the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine.)*

**American Anti-Vivisection Society/AAVS**

- raised/earned: \$2,905,026 (from \$954,348 in FY 2004)
- budget: \$1,536,296 (\$1,408,762 / \$1,219,000 / \$1,235,214 )
- programs: \$1,204,391
- overhead: \$331,905
- net assets: \$18,430,466

**Animal Welfare Institute/AWI**

- raised/earned: \$8,962,038 (up from \$2,913,514 in FY2004)
- budget: \$1,536,427 (\$1,260,416 / \$1,072,951 / 1,169,280)
- programs: \$1,406,101
- overhead: \$ 130,326
- net assets: \$11,997,605 (up from \$4,841,036 in FY2004)

**Humane Society of the United States/HSUS**

- raised/earned \$119, 920,506 (up from \$74,015,068 in FY 2004)
- budget: \$86,014,263 (\$70,306,473 / \$67,272,795 / \$58,865,207)
- programs: \$67,975,231
- overhead: \$18,039,032
- net assets: \$200,058,734 (up from 111,021,299 in FY2004)

*Notes: Some of the increase in revenues and assets are due to the merger last year of Fund for Animals with HSUS (approx \$25 million) and special contributions to rescue the animals victimized by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita (estimated to be around \$20 million.) Also note that the HSUS announced it had absorbed the Doris Day Animal League in a merger. The DDAL brought in \$3,382,030 in FY2005 and had net assets of \$1,214,746.*

**In Defense of Animals/IDA**

- raised/earned: \$3,738,732
- budget: \$3,646,967 (\$3,150,113 \$2,304,433 / \$2,339,784 )
- programs: \$3,047,840
- overhead: \$599,127
- net assets: \$3,657,616

**Last Chance for Animals/LCA**

- raised/earned: \$947,054
- budget: \$755,254 (\$651,099 in FY2004)
- programs: \$591,725

- overhead: \$163,529
- net assets: \$91,685

**National Anti-Vivisection Society/NAVS**

- raised/earned: \$1,939,382
- budget: \$2,317,895 (\$1,840,996 / \$2,810,328 / \$2,657,596)
- programs: \$1,779,154
- overhead: \$538,741
- net assets: \$3,943,062

**New England Anti Vivisection Society/NEAVS**

- raised/earned: \$509,766 (down from \$818,234 inv FY2004)
- budget: \$984,460 (\$866,917 / \$779,088 / \$885,239)
- programs: \$782,754
- overhead: \$201,706
- net assets: \$6,666,537

(AMP News, 12/06)

**The Southwest Association for Education in Biomedical Research - SwAEBR**

SwAEBR has been formed with the specific mission of developing and implementing a strong proactive campaign to educate school children, as well as the general public, in the vital role biomedical research plays in their everyday lives. The Association will disseminate information necessary to improve the public's understanding of how responsible and humane animal research has led to significantly improved health care for man and his animal companions.

**Friends of SwAEBR** - Individuals may support the Association through honorary membership known as Friends of SwAEBR. Friends are not required to pay dues, not entitled to vote, and have access to all services and programs sponsored by the Association.

**How Can You Help?**

**Provide financial support** - For general support, production of educational resources and sponsorship of the summer internship program.

**Serve on our speakers bureau** - Speakers are frequently requested for classroom and organization presentations. This increases the visibility of your company, SwAEBR, as well as educating the public.

**Become a Friend of SwAEBR:**

[www.swaibr.org](http://www.swaibr.org)

## Announcing the 2007 SwAEBR Essay Contest



### Essay Winners Receive a Paid Summer Internships in a Research Institution

It is easy ... just write an essay on:

**"How Has Biomedical Research Using Animals Benefited a Pet, You, or Someone You Know?"**

**Entries Due by March 16, 2007**

See the Website for Information & Rules  
[www.swaebr.org](http://www.swaebr.org)

**Web links:**

Read Previous Winning Essays & Student Exit Internship Reports

**For Questions Contact:**

Ms. Grace Aranda 520-621-3931 or  
Dr. Paula Johnson 520-621-3483 or

E-mail address: [swaebr@ahsc.arizona.edu](mailto:swaebr@ahsc.arizona.edu)



## Time to Renew Your Membership

### Coalition For Animals & Animal Research

*Your support will help inform the public that animal research has been, and will continue to be, essential in the struggle against disease in humans and animals. We receive no government funding and rely exclusively on private contributors to underwrite our newsletter, educational materials, alert listserv and expand our website.*

#### CFAAR Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: (Campus, if available) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Send me my newsletter electronically: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
*To reduce the cost of printing we send most newsletters electronically.*

Institutional Affiliation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty ( ) Staff ( ) Student ( ) Other ( )

I have enclosed a contribution of:

\$20 \$50 \$100 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**A years subscription to CFAAR News is included with your donation.**

Make checks payable to **CFAAR** and return to:  
CFAAR, P.O. Box 210101, Tucson, AZ, 85721