President’s Message
A Message from the President of ACLAM

Those who were able to attend enjoyed the AVMA national meeting and the beautiful city of Seattle. Here is a brief summary of the agenda items presented at the ACLAM Business Meeting on July 12 following discussion by the Board of Directors (BOD) the previous day.

Mel Balk gave the Executive Director’s report. The voting on the By-Laws has been tallied and the revised By-Laws approved by a vote of 96% in favor, 4% opposed.

In response to the increasing number of Diplomates who are coming out of retirement, new guidelines were approved by the BOD. Diplomates coming out of retirement will be responsible for a maximum of five years back dues at the current rate ($1250 total). They will also need to demonstrate active effort toward continuing education credits to regain certification and directory listing.

Jack Kinkler has been appointed as the new Development Officer for the ACLAM Foundation. He will also continue in his active role as REOC Chair.

The results of this year’s certifying examination were positive, with 43 of 81 candidates, or 53%, passing the exam. This is slightly higher than the 2008 result.

The Board of Directors is examining the issue of Executive Director Office compensation.

The REOC continues progress in development of a distance education program. It is also conducting a review of IT/website needs and upgrades. The BOD is looking into using the current REOC report form as a template for a standardized committee updates and annual reports. Moreover, there is an upcoming joint ACLAM, APV, ASLAP, AALAS effort to bring veterinary practitioners and vet students to the national AALAS meeting, to learn about careers in our field. The program, “Exploring Careers in Laboratory Animal Medicine” is planned for the Monday of the meeting (November 9). ASLAP’s Vet Student Liaison Committee and ACLAM’s Career Pathways Committee are recruiting people to act as guides for the students and veterinary practitioners who attend. If you are interested in being a guide for part of that day at the AALAS meeting, contact the CPC to volunteer. ACLAM members actively working on the program are Rusty Brady, Sue Vandewoude, and Lisa Halliday.

The Mentoring Committee, chaired by Stephanie Murphy, reports that they will have mentors and mentees in place by the end of 2009.
Congratulations to Kathryn Bayne for receiving the AVMA Animal Welfare Award, a very significant achievement.

This will be my last president’s message. The year has flown by – November and AALAS will soon be here – but it has certainly been a profitable learning experience. It is made much easier by the great talent present and effort extended by so many Diplomates. I thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve the College in this capacity. We will certainly be in able hands as Helen Diggs takes over in November.

Steve Leary
President, ACLAM

ACLAM Announcements
ACLAM Newsflashes

The election results have been tallied. The newly elected Officers/BOD for 2009-2010 are:

- **Cliff Roberts** - Vice President
- **Chuck Raflo** - Secretary-Treasurer
- **Lauretta Gerrity** - BOD
- **Bob Quinn** - BOD

The 2010 ACLAM Forum will take place in Newport, RI on May 2-5. Save the date!

ACLAM Undertakes Two New Important Initiatives

In his previous “President’s Message”, Steve Leary announced approval of two initiatives sponsored by the Recruitment and Education Oversight Committee (REOC). One is to develop a task force to explore options and create a blueprint for a distance education program for ACLAM. The other is to establish a task force to assess present and future needs related to information technology, with the initial focus on the ACLAM website. The purpose of this article is to provide more information about each of these initiatives and let you know who will be working on them.

ACLAM Distance Education Program Task Force

ACLAM is highly motivated to find ways to bring more veterinarians into laboratory animal medicine, and into our board specialty. Likely major barriers for people considering entering the specialty are the often further increasing their education debt load and the geographic distance to a training site. These barriers may be overcome with distance education [DE] programs.

Such programs are in use by many institutions of higher learning, and are being used in veterinary education. In laboratory animal science, the AALAS Learning Library and the CITI site (particularly for IACUC training) are successful models. The Veterinary Bioscience Institute is pioneering a combination of on-line and in-house training in laboratory animal surgery. SUNY in Delhi, NY has a successful on-line veterinary technology program. The Guelph veterinary school has developed a DE program for veterinarians who act as lab animal consultants.
ACLAM has the opportunity to create a new learning resource, as a service to our members and as a way to increase the feasibility of others entering the specialty of laboratory animal medicine.

Distance Education programs might provide solutions to the following issues, all related to education of laboratory animal veterinarians (from students to Diplomates):

1. Diplomates needing continuing education could readily tap into a DE program, saving some time and expense and days away from work as compared to attending a meeting.

2. The training programs may face the challenging financial and time constraints of supplying comprehensive training materials, and providing experiences across the range of species used in research investigations. A DE program can supplement the existing programs, and if these programs agree to share content via a DE initiative, provide a way to keep materials updated with the latest information, links, illustrations, videos, examples, and interaction with other veterinarians. Further, it allows us to leverage the expertise within the College to deliver high quality educational experiences virtually anywhere. An academically rigorous DE program could make a significant contribution to fulfilling the didactic requirements for sitting for the ACLAM Board Exam. There is also the possibility to establish webinars and other interactive learning opportunities.

3. There are a limited number of training programs in our field, as the majority of these training programs receive state or federal support and so may be off-limits to foreign veterinarians (non-US citizens). Qualified foreign graduates represent a potential pool of possible recruits to our field.

4. ACLAM texts and other materials could be regularly updated in a manner less cumbersome than the current methods: texts would not become outdated, but would be continually improved as new information came to light. Texts could be linked with other materials and made dynamic.

5. The new generation of veterinarians entering the workplace is a technologically savvy group; the existing textbooks (often in need of updating) and CDs provided by ACLAM will not likely provide the kind of resources to attract new graduates.

6. Finally, if ACLAM does not move into this arena soon, others will step in to fill the need. Our potential for attracting new recruits to our specialty will be enhanced by an academically rigorous DE program.

The charge to the DE Task Force is to explore options and create a blueprint for a distance education [DE] program for ACLAM. The DE program would provide educational opportunity for people studying for the board exam, as well as continuing education options for Diplomates. While the DE effort will focus on those who are or aspire to be laboratory animal practitioners, making some of the content suitable for others (investigators, scientists, regulators, veterinary students) will broaden its overall contribution and theoretically expand the number of possible funding sources for sustainability. The DE Task Force has been asked to complete this task within a one-year time frame.
The DE Task Force will likely survey alternatives available and currently used by other groups with similar needs, including veterinary schools and professional societies. Critical to the assessment for ACLAM will be a description of content needs, including an assessment of what content is currently available, but not yet in appropriate format for DE use. For example, could the ACLAM blue books and much of the information taught in the didactic courses at post-doctoral training programs be put into electronic format?

Importantly, this DE program is envisioned to have sufficient academic rigor for widespread accreditation as this will be necessary if some/most DE courses are to serve as 1) a source of academic credit for those working in degree programs, 2) didactic credit for those in non-degree residency programs and 3) credits for continuing education. The Task Force (TF) will take into consideration establishing academic rigor and oversight in establishing the DE blueprint.

The approximate costs are to be evaluated based on program options defined by the TF. There may be opportunities to reduce ACLAM’s costs through collaborations with other groups for mutual benefit (content, availability, security, web-hosting), such as post-doctoral training programs, the AVMA, AALAS, ASLAP, APV, and possibly others. Regardless a model for governance will be needed whether solely by ACLAM or as a shared responsibility among collaborative groups.

The final product from the task force is a recommendation of a DE plan for ACLAM, its cost and a timeline to move forward with DE.

Mike Fallon has agreed to Chair the DE Task Force and its members are:
- Marilyn Brown
- Leslie Colby
- Mike Fallon - Chair
- Craig Franklin
- Deb Hickman
- Pat Turner
- Sue Vandewoude
- Ron Wilson

ACLAM Information Technology and Management Task Force
A key foundation of our professional organization is efficient and effective communication within the membership, and also with potential College Diplomates, as well as with the public. Our communication formats must include the ability of the College leadership to readily communicate with Diplomates and the ability of Diplomates to easily present their views and ideas to those leading the College. Equally important is the management of various forms of communication and technology that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our organization. For ACLAM, our collective needs for important communication and information technology include:
- informing members about any BOD decisions and Committee activities;
- soliciting membership for volunteer efforts within the College;
- surveying member needs, desires and opinions;
- disseminating relevant regulatory and scientific information;
- providing potential College Diplomates with career information, including identifying resources to assist with career goals;
- exchanging ideas and perspectives between members to promote open discussion and debate on matters important to the College;
• providing ready access to policies and position statements;
• promoting interactive learning that builds knowledge within the organization;
• providing basic membership services
• providing effective communication and information tools for the organization's leadership, committees, and members

With key communication in place, the College then must record, retain, utilize and exchange the knowledge/history/information and continue to build upon it. As the preponderance of this communication in the future will occur electronically, it is imperative that our organization periodically reassesses whether its existing information technology and information management fully support, serve, and enable the efforts of its members and the organization as a whole to build for the future.

The existing website architecture was created several years ago and has certain limitations that impose restrictions on modifying its accessibility, as well as its overall utility and function. The REOC would like to acknowledge excellent work and contributions of Steve Fisk in his years of service as ACLAM Webmaster. Steve has worked very hard to get as much out of the existing website application as is possible and the website has generally served our needs. The REOC is receiving requests to add content and function to the website; however based on discussions with Steve, the existing website structure/architecture make such additions or changes arduous at best. Further, there is limited ability to readily expand the content and functions of the existing website as we undertake initiatives that will enhance the organization and help inform those interested in learning more about ACLAM and careers in laboratory animal medicine.

Currently, no central repository for documents related to ACLAM activities exists, nor does the appropriate IT infrastructure exist to distribute these documents and improve basic membership and professional services to the college. Such a repository would be useful for sharing information and tracking the activities across the College. We lack an adequate, readily available forum for open discussion and exchange of ideas to promote input from all members.

In all there are many potential areas for utilizing IT solutions as tools to enhance the effectiveness and development of the College in the years to come. The task force will work to discern and recommend which of these potential areas are ones that would pay dividends based on their assessment of cost and benefit. We also encourage the task force to look at utilizing external resources that may already be in place and be purchased by ACLAM to meet its needs.

Under the sponsorship of the REOC, this limited duration (1 yr) task force will assess present and future needs related to information technology and management for the College. The task force is composed of volunteer Diplomates with interest and expertise in this area and possible external consultation. Two specific areas of focus for the task force would be the (1) assessment of the role of the ACLAM website in supporting the College's strategic directions and as (2) development of the site as a repository for information that may be more readily shared by specific groups (BOD, Committees, Task Forces) or by all members of the College. The TF will subdivide into two collaborating subunits, one to address the website and the other to address information management.
The task force is assigned to evaluate the following:

- Survey the College membership, the BOD and Committee Chairs to assess the adequacy of the present state of ACLAM IT and IM strategies, content and technologies.
- Deliver a strategic plan, based on survey results, for IT and IM needs for the next 5 – 7 years that considers the array of issues attendant to this topic including but not limited to ease of use, security, flexibility, cost, and sustainability.
- Identify and prioritize any needs for improvement or additions to the current technology, based upon results from the survey and strategic plan:
  - Short term – 6-10 months
  - Mid-term – 1-2 years
  - Long term greater than 2 years
- Develop cost effective proposals for identified and prioritized improvement suggestions, addressing the most critical short-term needs first. This may include contracting suitable third parties to host and manage ACLAM’s IT/IM needs subject to appropriate oversight by the College.

Tom Meier and Jim Taylor have agreed to serve as Co-Chairs of the IT/IM Task Force and its members are:

- Ken Boschert
- Steve Fisk
- Jeff Goodwin
- Clay Hadick
- David Johnson
- Diane McClure
- Tom Meier – Co-Chair
- Kathleen Smiler
- Jim Taylor – Co-Chair

Please join the REOC in supporting the members of these two task forces as they undertake this important work on behalf of the College. Your cooperation in responding to any surveys or other requests for information will greatly facilitate making their work successful.

Jack Kinkler on behalf of the REOC

2009 New Diplomates

The Board of Directors voted 43 new Diplomates into the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine on July 12, 2009 after successfully completing the certification examination. The new Diplomates are listed in the side bar.

Welcome!

Mentoring Committee

A good mentor must have the ability to communicate and build a strong and effective professional relationship based on honesty, trust, and sincerity. A good mentor must also be a good listener and be able to offer career advice without bias, passing judgments, or interjecting personal ideologies. Many professions have mentoring programs in which newcomers or trainees are paired with more experienced people who advise them and serve as examples as mentees advance.
The Mentoring Committee was formed in November 2008 to implement and sustain a mentoring program for veterinarians and veterinary students interested in opportunities in laboratory animal medicine, veterinarians preparing to seek ACLAM certification, and veterinarians in laboratory animal medicine seeking guidance on career building and professional development. The overall committee objective is to recruit veterinarians into laboratory animal medicine as a means of addressing the national shortage with a secondary objective of providing guidance and support to those veterinarians who are already in the field. The committee is composed of nine Diplomates who serve three-year staggered terms and includes liaisons from ASLAP, APV, and CALAM. The committee has spent the past year working on key infrastructural elements of the mentoring program such as developing a listserv for mentors and mentees, a mentee/mentor database, survey mechanisms for follow up and feedback, and mentor/mentee resources and tools. The adjacent figure gives an overview of how the mentoring program will function. The committee tentatively plans to launch the mentoring program towards the end of 2009 and will be looking to members of ACLAM, ASLAP, APV, and CALAM to serve as mentors in this program.

For more information about the mentoring committee or program, please contact either the committee chair, Stephanie Murphy (murphyst@ohsu.edu) or the vice chair, Jenny Smith (jenny.smith@taconic.com).

Newsletter Policy

The Newsletter is published 4X per year:
March: Pre Forum
June: Pre AVMA
Sep: Pre AALAS
Dec: Post AALAS and Pre Pre Forum

The readers of the ACLAM Newsletter are veterinarians board certified in laboratory animal medicine. If the ad for a veterinary position requiring board certification in this specialty, the Newsletter is an appropriate place to advertise. Ad content should be submitted within the body of a plain text email or as a MS Word attachment and formatted into the following sections:

- **Job Title** (short position title)
- **Applications** (how applicants are to apply)
- **Position** (100-150 word description of the position)
- **Requirements** (qualifications, etc.)
- **Employer Information** (additional information about the employer (EEO etc.))

Please also include a contact name and address for billing purposes. You will be billed after the publication date of the Newsletter. The deadline for submission is two weeks prior to the publication date. The ad will be posted on the ACLAM website for approximately 90 days within a few days of submission.

The Position segment of each ad will appear in the ACLAM Newsletter referring the reader to the ACLAM website for the full text of the ad.

The cost to place an ad in the NL and post it on the ACLAM Website for 3 months will be $500 for For profit Companies and $250 for not -for profits such as Universities and the Government.
Position announcements will remain on the web for 3 months. If an organization wishes to extend the posting for an additional 3 months, it will be charged a second fee.

The rate for ACLAM mailing labels is:
- $1,000 for profits (a cost of $1.60 per targeted name)
- $500 for Not for Profits (the same as ASLAP’s new rate), a cost of $0.80 per targeted name.

**ACLAMers in the News**

**Primate veterinarians promote animal welfare, biomedical research**

*R. Scott Nolan*

*From JAVMA News, August 15, 2009*

One-health approach bridges gap between science and human medicine

When reports surfaced earlier this year that some primates at the New Iberia Research Center in Louisiana had been mistreated, some people may have seen it as confirmation of their worst suspicions about laboratory animal research. The Humane Society of the United States, which secretly videotaped alleged abuses, accused New Iberia staff of hundreds of Animal Welfare Act violations. A U.S. Department of Agriculture investigation of the facility ultimately resulted in just six citations for failing to comply with AWA standards. Meanwhile, the HSUS called on Congress to pass legislation ending invasive research on chimpanzees and retiring the approximately 500 federally owned chimpanzees to sanctuaries.

The controversy over New Iberia illustrates a key challenge for those working in laboratory animal medicine, namely, a perception that scientists systematically abuse their nonhuman subjects. The primate research community was deeply troubled by how they were portrayed by the media, and they sought to counter the negative image by explaining that the New Iberia incident is a rare exception in a field that is quite simply working to discover new drugs, vaccines, and medical technologies to save lives, both human and animal.

The public rarely considers the need for animals in biomedical research, says Dr. Christian R. Abee, director of the Michael E. Keeling Center in Bastrop, Texas, but when they do, they quickly understand why animals are a valuable resource. “We’re really talking about the life and death of people,” Dr. Abee said. “The new treatments being worked on can save millions of lives. Just as the discovery of penicillin saved untold numbers of lives, we’re trying to discover the antibiotics for the future.”

What the public may also not realize is, when a medical advance is first tested in animals, veterinarians are there, ensuring that the animals are humanely treated and that the therapy is shown to be safe enough to begin clinical trials in humans.

“We as veterinarians care about the animals, so we want to make certain they’re used properly and that we do everything we can to minimize any discomfort
these animals have. But we also recognize that it’s only through this research that we’re going to make progress in treating diseases killing many millions of people every year.”

Veterinarians have sworn an oath to protect animal health and relieve suffering in their patients. Yet they are equally committed to promoting public health and advancing medical knowledge about animals as well as humans. The tension between these dual obligations is nowhere more profound than in the field of laboratory animal medicine.

“We as veterinarians care about the animals,” Dr. Abee explained, “so we want to make certain they’re used properly and that we do everything we can to minimize any discomfort these animals have. But we also recognize that it’s only through this research that we’re going to make progress in treating diseases killing many millions of people every year.”

Among the many animal species used in research, few are as highly valued physiologically as nonhuman primates. Because of their genetic, immunologic, reproductive, and neurologic similarities to humans, these animals are used as translational models involving a range of human illnesses, including cancer, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, Parkinson’s disease, Alzheimer’s disease, and cardiovascular illnesses.

Advocates of primate research say medical breakthroughs such as the polio and hepatitis B vaccines would not have been possible or realized as soon as they were if these animals were not part of the investigations. “Primates are as close as you can get to the next step, which is clinical trials in humans,” said Dr. Cheryl D. DiCarlo, assistant director of research resources at the Southwest National Primate Research Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Even with their many similarities to humans, a primate may not be ideal for a particular study, and it’s up to the veterinarian supervising the study to decide, Dr. DiCarlo noted. “That’s one of the things lab animal veterinarians do: they determine what species is the best model for a particular research project. Sometimes the mouse is the best model,” she said.

Much of the research involving nonhuman primates is conducted at the eight National Primate Research Centers located throughout the country. Overseen by the National Institutes of Health’s National Center for Research Resources, those facilities house an estimated 28,000 animals representing more than 20 species, including Old World primates like the chimpanzee, baboon, and rhesus macaque—the lion’s share of primates used in research—and New World primates, including squirrel and owl monkeys. In addition, the centers operate breeding colonies to maintain the supply of several primate species for research.

Given the considerable costs associated with caring for a chimpanzee throughout its lifetime—as much as $500,000 over the span of 50 years—the NCRR in 1995 suspended financial support for the breeding of new chimpanzees. The center does provide ongoing monies for chimpanzees bred prior to the moratorium, and that includes retirement into a federally funded sanctuary system, such as Chimp Haven in Shreveport, La.
Primates are highly complex and social animals so, in addition to a team of veterinarians and veterinary technicians, each center employs a staff of behaviorists or trainers whose sole job is to provide environmental enrichment for the animals. It is understood in the research community that healthy and emotionally well-adjusted animals make the best test subjects.

Humans aren’t the only ones who benefit from new medical therapies. According to Dr. Franziska B. Grieder, director of the NCRR Comparative Medicine Division, many advances in human medicine are now used to enhance and prolong animal life.

“We wouldn’t have specific cancer treatments if they weren’t first developed for human patients—or hip replacements or cardiac valves. We would never put those into dogs if they weren’t developed for humans,” Dr. Grieder said, and added that few biomedical companies would fund costly studies that benefited only animals.

Demand for primates fluctuates according to research needs at a given time. Research on HIV/AIDS, influenza, cancer treatments using monoclonal antibodies, and biodefense, for instance, are among some of the current hot topics. The NIH worries that new and emerging diseases will increase demand for research animals and there won’t be enough veterinarians to look after the animals properly.

As with most career paths in veterinary medicine, with the exception of companion animal practice, a shortage exists of specially trained veterinarians who can meet the behavioral and physiologic needs of primates. The Association of Primate Veterinarians has 374 members, 33 of whom reside outside the United States, according to APV president, Dr. Thomas E. Nolan. Those numbers, Dr. Nolan said, encompass most if not all veterinarians working with primates.

“Primate medicine is a small fraternity, and (the fact) that jobs are going unfilled is pretty common knowledge,” explained Dr. Bruce J. Bernacky, section chief of the rhesus monkey breeding colony and co-manager of the chimp colony at the Michael E. Keeling Center. “NIH can also see that more veterinarians are retiring than young people are coming into field.”

To offset the shortage, the NCRR in 2007 began offering the R25 training grant at each of the primate centers to train veterinarians for careers in primate clinical medicine. Dr. Greg K. Wilkerson started his two-year residency at the Keeling Center in February. A 2001 graduate of the Center for Veterinary Health Sciences at Oklahoma State University, Dr. Wilkerson completed residencies in anatomic pathology and comparative medicine prior to striking out in this new direction.

“Primate medicine wasn’t something I initially considered, just because I didn’t have a lot of exposure to primates,” Dr. Wilkerson said. “But once I did, I found it very fascinating. No two days are the same, and there are many opportunities for me.”

The veterinarians interviewed for this article believe that, as champions of animal welfare, veterinarians are an essential component of biomedical research that uses animals. “We’re sometimes perceived as torturing animals, but it’s just the opposite. The veterinary staff is the animal advocate here,” explained Dr. Kathleen M. Brasky, a clinical and research veterinarian at the Southwest National Primate Research Center.
“The animals are our top interest. (They’re) not data from a project, whereas for an investigator, (the data) would be their primary interest. We’re the animal advocate,” Dr. Brasky explained.

The Animal Welfare Act requires veterinarians to provide pain relief to animals for any procedure that might be perceived to cause pain in a person. “I think lab animal veterinarians are much more attuned to pain and alleviating pain than human physicians,” she said. “We err on the side of caution.”

For more information about research primates and laboratory animal medicine, visit the Web sites of the Association of Primate Veterinarians (www.primatevets.org), American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (www.aclam.org), and National Center for Research Resources (www.ncrr.nih.gov/). Additionally, the AVMA has several policies on animal research and appropriate care for the animals, including “AVMA Animal Welfare Principles,” “Use of Animals in Research, Testing, and Education,” and “Responsible Use of Animals for Human Purposes.” These and other position statements are available on the AVMA Web site (www.avma.org) in the Reference section under “Policy.”

ACLAM Foundation
ACLAM Job Announcement

The ACLAM Foundation Committee has had some major changes since the last Newsletter. First is the retirement of Martin Morin as Chair of the ACLAM Foundation committee. Marty has served as Chair of the Foundation since its inception 11 years ago. Greg Boivin is the new Chair of the Foundation and will continue to serve as the Scientific Director. Rowland (Jack) Kinkler is the new Development Officer. He will be responsible for the fund raising arm of the Foundation. Please welcome Jack to the position with a donation to the Foundation. With these changes it is important to continue to serve the ACLAM Diplomates. We are interested in hearing your opinion of how the Foundation is serving its mission to award high quality research grants that will increase the body of knowledge in laboratory animal science and medicine. Please contact either Jack or Greg with your ideas.

Fundraising News: At the 2009 ACLAM Forum Diplomates and guests donated over $55,000 to support research in the Foundation. We also gained another 6 members of the President’s Circle for Sustained Giving raising the total to 140. There are now outstanding pledges of over $300,000. A loud applause goes out to all that have donated during the year and in the past decade. For the second year a generous contribution by Abbott Laboratories funded 2 grants, and we again received support from AAALAC International.

Jack has provided his vision for Development Director/Officer position. Please consider contributions or participation in the following five areas;

1. Long-term to raise sufficient funds to provide grants to every worthy grant proposal and continue to build endowment to adequately supplement donations where necessary
2. Maintain the successful program of fundraising presently established and work with the Foundation Committee to achieve enhancements that would generate more donors and larger donations
3. Seek new sources of donations/funding apart from traditional sources -
explore other opportunities and where appropriate run pilot programs as such opportunities arise
4. Sustain the established tenor of respectful solicitation; continue to promote donations through robust recognition of donors; and promote awareness of the Foundation’s objectives and successes among appropriate audiences (getting the word out) through timely and effective communications
5. Enjoying this opportunity to meet more Diplomates and, through the efforts of committee members, create opportunities to raise funds for the Foundation while having fun

Scientific Report: In 2009 the ACLAM Foundation funded 6 grants for a total of $115,725. This brings our total of funded grants since 1997 to 78 and $1,335,359. Our awardees have made remarkable progress on these grants having published 50 articles in peer reviewed journals and have made at least 70 presentations at national meetings.

The 2009 Grants selected for funding by the ACLAM Foundation were:

1. **Craig Franklin**, University of Missouri $25,000
   “Bedding Dilution effects in sentinel monitoring of MPV”
   The goal of this work is to determine the amount of bedding needed to be transferred to infect sentinel mice.

2. **Linda Barter**, University of California, Davis $9,550
   “Use of thermal threshold testing to assess analgesic efficacy in rabbits”
   This study will examine 4 analgesics to determine efficacy and duration of the agents in the rabbit.

3. **Lawrence Carbone**, University of California, Davis $6,480
   “Comparative preference for social versus non-social enrichment in older rats: Elasticity of demand analysis”
   The hypothesis of this grant is that aging rats will show a strong persistent demand for social contact and increase their demand over time.

4. Supported by ABBOTT LABORATORIES **Katherine Nicholson**, Virginia Commonwealth University $24,695
   “Reinforcing effects of different types of video enrichment”
   This study examines the preference of rhesus macaques for different videos.

5. **Jon Reuter**, The Salk Institute $30,000
   “Assessing cage density impact on behavioral testing, molecular markers of anxiety and neurogenesis in different mouse strains”
   This study examines cage density effect on different behavioral testing paradigms, and neural molecular markers of stress.

6. Supported by ABBOTT LABORATORIES **Greg Wilkerson**, MD Anderson $20,000
   “Effect of visual barriers on chronic stress and distress within gang-caged rhesus macaques in establishing breeding colonies”
   This research examines the benefit of adding barriers in gang-cage macaque cages to determine if this affects breeding, stress, and agonistic behaviors.
The next cycle of grants will come up on us fast. Letters of Intent are due on December 11, 2009. Please consider submitting a grant proposal or collaborating with a colleague.

Greg Boivin
Chairman, ACLAM Foundation

**Educational Opportunities**

**Residency in Laboratory Animal Medicine**  
*Department of Molecular and Comparative Pathobiology*  
*Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD*

The Johns Hopkins Department of Molecular and Comparative Pathobiology is accepting applications for our three-year residency program in Laboratory Animal Medicine. This ACLAM-accredited program provides outstanding clinical training in laboratory animal medicine as well as scholarly activities to fulfill the requirements for certification by the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM). Emphasis of the program is on acquiring competence in clinical care, pathology, and diagnostic procedures in laboratory animals through rotations in surgical support and post-operative care, old and new world primate medicine and breeding colony management, and rodent program management.

**Laboratory Animal Medicine Residency/Research Fellowship**  
*Department of Molecular and Comparative Pathobiology*  
*Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD*

The Department of Molecular and Comparative Pathobiology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine invites applications for our 4-year residency/research fellowship in laboratory animal medicine. The successful candidate will receive comprehensive training in laboratory animal medicine in preparation for certification by the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM), along with outstanding research training in a multi-disciplinary mentored environment. This training opportunity is comparable to residency/PhD programs offered at many veterinary schools, yet is distinguished by the much broader research opportunities afforded by a large medical institution and the option to pursue a PhD in a stellar JHU graduate program.

**Postdoctoral Training in Laboratory Animal and Comparative Medicine**  
*University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, MI*

The Unit for Laboratory Animal Medicine (ULAM) at the University of Michigan Medical School (UMMS) invites applications for our residency training program in laboratory animal medicine. This 3-year program emphasizes the clinical, pathological, managerial, and administrative aspects of laboratory animal medicine. The program includes a strong component of research training in comparative medicine, the study of phenomena basic to the disease of all species. The training program is recognized by the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM). Program completion satisfies eligibility requirements for specialty board certification.
Postdoctoral Training in Laboratory Animal Medicine
Emory University/Yerkes National Primate Center, Atlanta, GA

The Section of Veterinary Pathobiology of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine of the Emory University School of Medicine, jointly with the Yerkes National Primate Research Center, offers postdoctoral training for veterinarians in laboratory animal medicine. The program is for 2 or more years, is broadly based, and includes training in clinical medicine, pathology, research, and management of animal resources. This training is applicable toward eligibility for ACLAM certification. Financial support begins commensurate with NIH scale. Applicants must have a D.V.M. or equivalent degree from a college of veterinary medicine accredited by the A.V.M.A. License to practice in North America preferred. The application deadline is November 1, 2009 or until both positions are filled. For further information, contact Dr. Michael J. Huerkamp, Emory University School of Medicine, Whitehead Biomedical Research Building, 615 Michael St., Suite G-02, Atlanta, GA 30322; (404) 727-3248. Refer to Search #11866BR.

Residency Training in Laboratory Animal Medicine
Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, Hershey, PA

The Department of Comparative Medicine at the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine in Hershey, PA has two (2) openings in its ACLAM-certified residency program, starting July 1, 2010. Candidates must have graduated from an AVMA-accredited veterinary school (or have completed all ECFVG requirements), and passed the national licensure examination (NAVLE) by the initiation of their training (July 1, 2010). The program prepares newly graduated or practicing veterinarians for careers in biomedical research and laboratory animal medicine. Well-rounded individuals with clinical experience and a strong research interest are encouraged to apply. To be successful in our program the applicant must be able to work independently and possess a demonstrated ability to study and perform at high level. The two years of residency training follows the general pattern described at http://www.hmc.psu.edu/comparativemedicine/gradprogram/index.htm and is approved by the graduate school for an M.S. degree.

Training in Comparative Laboratory Animal Medicine
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

The Colorado State University, Laboratory Animal Resources, in conjunction with the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Pathology, in the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, is offering a post-DVM graduate training position in comparative animal medicine. The core program includes residency training in laboratory animal medicine and graduate research, and is designed to culminate in both American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM) board certification eligibility, and an MS or PhD degree. Clinical and didactic training will be performed at CSU in conjunction with combined post-doctoral training programs in veterinary pathology and microbiology. Residency training is facilitated by a diverse and well established program for animal care and use at AAALAC-intl accredited facilities. Graduate research training utilizes
modern scientific methodology and encourages independent thought with an emphasis on experimental design, data interpretation, and development of written and oral communication skills.

**Open Positions**

**Senior Director**

**AAALAC International, Frederick, MD**

The Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC International) seeks to fill the position of Senior Director. The position is available immediately and preferably will be filled no later than September 2009. The Senior Director will join the senior management team at AAALAC International’s office as the leader of AAALAC’s education and outreach programs, reporting to the Executive Director. Principal duties include: advancing and directing the education and outreach program; heading the effort to employ new technologies and survey tools for AAALAC’s internal functions and organizational development; interacting with our external clients on a variety of issues related to program development, facility planning and design, etcetera; and aiding accredited units in the detection, management and resolution of deviations in animal care and use policies or practices potentially impacting the institution’s accreditation status. In addition, the Senior Director will contribute significant ancillary support to our accreditation activities as coordinated by the Global Director.

**Director of Select Agent Regulatory Compliance**

**Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, San Antonio, TX**

The Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research (SFBR) located in San Antonio, Texas, invites applications for a Director of Select Agent Regulatory Compliance. Individual will be responsible for overseeing safety and compliance programs for all Category A through Category C agents, advising on the policy and programs necessary to assure the control of biological agents, and providing BioSafety training and compliance assurances related to the use of biological agents. Will serve as the Responsible Official.

A Master’s degree in biomedical or biochemical science or related field or equivalent. Must be familiar with biocontainment principles, the CDC BMBL requirements, NIH IBC Guidelines and Select Agent Programs. Must be able to obtain a select agent program security risk clearance. Ph.D. in a biomedical or biochemical science or related field preferred. Certified Biological Safety Professional (CBSP) preferred.

**Senior Staff Veterinarian**

**Covance, Vienna, VA**

At Covance, we help make the miracles of medicine a reality. We offer opportunities to work on diverse, challenging projects with bright, interesting colleagues while building a flexible and rewarding career. Covance is seeking a Senior Staff Veterinarian for our Toxicology group in Vienna, Virginia.
Responsibilities
• Provide veterinary health care for laboratory animals, give advice regarding the care and maintenance of laboratory animals, and provide training for technicians.
• Monitor animal health and welfare in compliance with the Animal Welfare Act and help maintain facilities for AAALAC accreditation.

Requirements:
• Veterinary license in at least one state in the USA and ability to obtain a license and USDA accreditation in Virginia within 6 months.
• Board certification or eligibility for board certification in the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine desired.
• 5-10 years of experience in the laboratory animal medicine or science field.
• Knowledge of small and large animals used in research.
• Must be able to work in a laboratory setting with laboratory animals.

Clinical Veterinarian (PD99) # 56948
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

The University of Iowa, Office of Animal Resources invites applications for the position of Clinical Veterinarian. This position reports to the Director of the Office of Animal Resources. The Office of Animal Resources is responsible for the husbandry and veterinary care of all animals at the University of Iowa. Primary position responsibilities include: 1) Manage the professional health care of various animal species including rodents, non-human primates, farm animals and aquatic species. 2) Manage preventive medicine programs including rodent sentinel, vendor surveillance and quarantine programs. 3) Manage programs for pre- and postoperative care, anesthesia, analgesia, and euthanasia. 4) Provide guidance of protocol development for compliance with regulatory requirements. 5) Perform veterinary review, including grant comparison, of protocols submitted to the IACUC. 6) Participate in IACUC facility/programmatic evaluations. 7) Provide training to research and caretaker staff.

Director, Laboratory Animal Science, 12069
RTI International, Research Triangle Park, NC

RTI is an independent organization dedicated to conducting innovative, multidisciplinary research that improves the human condition. With a worldwide staff of more than 4,000 people, RTI offers innovative research and development and a full spectrum of multidisciplinary services.

The incumbent will monitor vendors to assure the adequacy of the health of all animals received within the facilities of the department. This position is expected to collaborate with researchers as needed to provide professional and scientific consultation for selection and development of unique animal models systems for research, testing and production operations in animal facilities under responsibility. They will be expected to incorporate the 3 R’s (Replacement, Refinement and Reduction) in their daily decision-making, conduct of research oriented activities and guidance to research staff. Through their leadership they will encourage innovation, set expectations and hold people accountable for their actions. They will effectively communicate both successes and failures and promote change, where necessary, to more effectively drive for results.
Clinical Laboratory Animal Veterinarian/Research Veterinarian 090873
W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. Flagstaff, AZ

W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. is seeking a Clinical Laboratory Animal Veterinarian/Research Veterinarian to be part of a fast-paced pre-clinical research and development team to evaluate new medical devices in a surgical/interventional research setting in an AAALAC accredited facility.

Responsibilities:
- Support pre-clinical research by performing medical device implantation and veterinary clinical care.
- Close collaboration with project teams, study directors, histopathologists, and others to assist in the planning and execution of studies.
- Work closely with surgical research technicians and support staff.
- Provide a bridge for the relevance of veterinary models to human anatomy and disease states.
- Participation in preventative health care program for all species.
- Conduct procedures according to Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) guidelines.
- Development of new experimental models and surgical/interventional procedures.
- Participate in on-call duties.
- Participate in training for field sales, product specialists, engineers, and other associates.

Associate Director for Laboratory Animal Medicine #09-18737
Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute, Philadelphia, PA

The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute is an interdisciplinary institution dedicated to conducting basic, clinical and translational research on conditions and diseases that affect children, and is part of The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and University of Pennsylvania research community.

In this role, you will direct veterinary medical, diagnostic, surgical and/or treatment services for a variety of laboratory animal species, perform and manage technical support for research projects, train research and animal care staff, and assist the director in ensuring compliance with federal regulations and AAALAC international standards.

The Associate Director for Laboratory Animal Medicine will report to the Director of Laboratory Animal Services.

Staff Veterinarian (Clinical Lab Animal Veterinarian)
Tufts University, Boston, MA

The Division of Laboratory Animal Medicine (DLAM) at the Tufts University and Tufts Medical Center has an immediate opening for a Staff Veterinarian. The staff position reports to the Director of DLAM. The Division provides animal husbandry and clinical care for all research animals (predominantly mice) on the Boston
Health Sciences campus for Tufts University and Tufts Medical Center and on the Medford campus for Tufts University. The Veterinarian, under the supervision of the Director, will have a primary role in the providing clinical veterinarian support; consultation with research faculty and staff on issues pertaining to animal care and use; assisting with teaching and training; monitoring animal health and welfare in compliance with federal and state regulations; assisting with the maintenance of the animal program and facilities for AAALAC accreditation; supervision of DLAM veterinary technicians; and supervision of veterinary student externs.

**Director of Laboratory Animal Resources**  
*State University of New York at Albany, Albany, NY*

The Director will manage a central program with one set of staff that cares for all research animals at UAlbany. The Director will oversee the daily operations of the university’s Laboratory Animal Resources (including budgeting and staffing; develop and implement a campus-wide program of veterinary care and preventive medicine; develop and implement training programs in animal care for research faculty, staff, and students; consult in the design and development of animal care facilities; provide clinical support for animal research projects; and serve as a member of the IACUC in the review and approval of animal research protocols to ensure compliance with all state and federal regulations. The Director will also be responsible for overseeing the merger of all campus animal care sites into a single, university-wide Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC) accredited program and, thereafter, maintain that accreditation.

**Director of Veterinary Services**  
*Maccine Pte Ltd., Singapore, 117684*

Maccine Pte Ltd is a Singapore-based pre-clinical contract research organization (www.maccine.com) of 120 professionals (including 12 veterinarians) providing innovative discovery support and quality safety assessment services to the global pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry. The company is located in a high-tech environment 20 minutes from downtown Singapore and 45 minutes from Changi International Airport). Singapore is noted for it's English-speaking, western environment and high standards of living (particularly schooling and health systems).

Reporting to the CSO, the Director of Veterinary Services will have managerial and technical responsibility for work performed by the Department of Veterinary Services. As a laboratory primate focused CRO, Veterinary Services plays a pivotal role in all aspects of Maccine’s operation from the management of administrative aspects (eg AAALAC, NACLAR and local authority), primate breeding programs, development of surgical models and involvement in medical imaging (MRI, DEXA, ultrasound and PET-CT).
Dr. Nathan Ronald Brewer, one of the founding fathers of AALAS and its first president, passed away on June 17th. At the time of his passing at 104 years of age, he had the distinction of being the oldest member of the AVMA and had recently completed an interview entitled “Work hard at things you love to do” published in the June 15 issue of JAVMA.

Dr. Brewer received his PhD degree in physiology from the University of Chicago in 1936 and his DVM degree from Michigan State University a year later. The war years were spent in private practice in California. In 1945 Dr. Brewer began managing the laboratory animal facilities at the University of Chicago, becoming one of the first full-time laboratory animal veterinarians at any university. At that time, he said, many institutions had fine colonies of laboratory animals, but there were also many problems. Unregulated transportation, inadequate housing, and unethical procurement were among them.

Conditions were not only unfavorable for many of the animals; the conditions would often invalidate research results because of problems such as cross-contamination. The first step Dr. Brewer took toward improving the quality of life for laboratory animals was to form an alliance with his colleagues. They convinced purchasing departments at institutions to buy research animals only from recognized sources. Then Dr. Brewer joined the Transportation Committee of the American Humane Association as its biologist and drafted the first regulations requiring humane transport of animals. These regulations eventually became the basis for federal regulations.

Dr. Brewer also helped found the Animal Care Panel, now called the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science. He was editor of its journal for 12 years. In addition, he showcased the problems facing laboratory animal care and presented solutions through a Chicago-area lecture series and traveling exhibit featured at meetings of biomedical societies.

As public awareness of laboratory animal welfare issues grew, institutions sought ways to improve their treatment. Many institutions, including the National Institutes of Health, adopted ideas and concepts pioneered by Dr. Brewer. He championed the importance of reducing animal suffering by pretesting procedures before implementing them. The standards and accreditation criteria for laboratory animal facilities that Dr. Brewer developed later in his career provided the basis for the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care.

Dr. Brewer remained at the University of Chicago until 1969 and then spent 21 years as a consultant. His influence is seen in technically sophisticated polymer plastic cages on ventilated racks, HEPA-filtered ventilation systems, and quality-bred laboratory animals cared for by specialty trained laboratory animal veterinarians and technicians.

Dr. Brewer was extremely dedicated to AALAS and the field of laboratory animal science and medicine. He attended every national meeting for more than 50 consecutive years. When questioned on why he has remained an active volunteer for so many years, his tongue-in-cheek reply was, “If I had passed away earlier, I would not have been involved so long.”
President Steve Leary called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

**Secretary-Treasurer’s Report:** Chuck Raflo reported that the minutes of the May 3, 2009 Forum BOD meeting were approved by the Board. The minutes from the May 3, 2009 Forum General Business Meeting were printed in the Newsletter. There were no corrections or additions made to the minutes. It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the General Business Meeting Minutes from May 3, 2009 held in Tucson, Arizona.

Financially, ACLAM is well within its budget. As of the close of business on July 13, 2009, total investments are worth approximately $1.3M under the professionally managed accounts at Smith Barney. As the markets go up and down so do our investments.

**Executive Director’s Report:** Mel Balk reported that the College now consists of 870 Diplomates, 710 active, 131 retired and 18 honorary members. Nate Brewer recently passed and ACLAM donated $2,500 to Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine in his memory. Nine Diplomates have requested to be placed on the retired roll. Three Diplomates have requested to unretire. Twenty-two Diplomates have not paid their 2009 dues yet. The five year ABVS report is due in November. Eighty one candidates sat for the certifying examination in Bethesda, MD on June 28, 2009. It was held at the Hyatt Hotel. The 2010 certifying exam will be given on July 25, 2010 since the AVMA meeting is July 31 through August 4. The 2009 Forum was held in Tucson, AZ on May 3-6. The ACLAM/ASLAP Economic Survey has been published. Election ballots for Vice President (Clifford Roberts, Lucy Senter), Secretary-Treasurer (Chuck Raflo) and Board Members Michele Bailey, Lauretta Gerrity, David Kurtz and Robert Quinn) will go out and are due August 21.

**Board of Directors’ Actions and Committee Reports:**

ACLAM has donated $500 to the North American Veterinary Medical Educational Consortium and $600 to the AALAS Veterinary Outreach Program.

The Board set a policy on unretirement. There will be a five year cap on dues at the rate current when the person requests to be unretired. They are also expected to initiate recertification and until they are fully recertified, the caption under their picture in the Directory will not have the caption of “recertification current”.

Since Marty Morin has resigned from being Chair of the ACLAM Foundation, it was decided that Greg Boivin would become Chair and that after nominations, that Jack Kinkler would become the Development Officer while keeping the duties of Chair REOC.

Results of the certifying examination were that the overall pass rate was 53%. There will be 43 new Diplomates joining the College. Next year, there will be one exam divided into morning and afternoon sessions. Candidates must pass both sessions to become a Diplomate.

A compensation increase because of an increase in the number of effort hours for the Executive Director, Mel Balk, was discussed at the BOD meeting.

The REOC has developed a template for its reporting committees to use. It is the BOD’s wish that the COC will adopt the same template for its committees. This template could also be utilized for the annual reports from all committees.
The Mentoring Committee hopes to have the mentors and mentees matched by the end of the year.

Helen Diggs reported that the 2010 Forum co-chairs (Maria Moalli and Joe Thulin) are getting organized. The Forum will be held May 2 – 5, 2010 in Newport, RI.

Dr. Kathryn Bayne will receive the AVMA Animal Welfare Award.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

President Leary adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles P. Raflo, D.V.M., MS
Secretary Treasurer