Working with Research Animals at Macquarie University

History
- UK – 1835 – Cruelty to Animals Act for work animals.
- Australia – First animal protection legislation was introduced in Victoria in 1883.

Legislation
- In NSW:
  - NSW Animal Research Act 1985

Important Federal acts which may apply to your research:
- Animal Quarantine Act 1908
- Gene Technology Act 2000
- Wildlife Protection Act 1982
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Wildlife Protection) Act 2001
- Others

“Research” includes the use of animals for:
- Research (including wildlife observation)
- Teaching
- Testing / Trials
- Production of biological products.
The Australian Code of Practice for The Care and Use Of Animals For Scientific Purposes ("The Code")

Animal Research Review Panel (ARRP)

Legislation – The Code

History

NH&MRC Guidelines

How Do I get my approval?
Dr Miriam Meek BSc, BVSc, MACVs, MSc
Animal Welfare Officer
Macquarie University

The Animal Ethics Committee – AEC:

- Ensures that MQ adheres to all legislations, codes and guidelines.
- Maintains a register of approved experimental proposals including a description of techniques and those using animals for experiments.
  - Reports and makes recommendations to the VC and NSW government

The Animal Ethics Committee – AEC:

- Develops principles and guidelines in respect of animal experimentation and welfare at MQ
- Ensures that all persons involved in animal care and use are trained and competent

The Forms

- The application form
  - Research and teaching
  - In situ wildlife research
- The amendment form
  - Personnel (new or leaving)
  - Methods
- The progress report
- The final report

The Unexpected Adverse Event report
Always go to the website to upload the latest form

- Read the questions properly
- Answer every question thoroughly
- Ask for advice
- Ask your supervisor to read it
- Ask a colleague to read it
- Sign it and ensure all parts are completed

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The AWO

Call me

The Animal Welfare Officer (AWO):

- Advises the AEC
- Advises MQ
- Advises researchers
- Reports to the AEC, MQ, Government
- Primary responsibility for the welfare of the animals
The Committee needs enough information to understand the aims, procedures to be carried out, and the potential outcomes.

We need specific information about what will happen to the animals.

We do not need highly technical explanations, just enough explanation to judge what will be done.

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Animal Welfare Officer
Macquarie University

The Forms

2.1. Provide a <500 word outline of the project in its forms*.
   *Your response should be directed to an educated, non-scientific audience.

2.1.1. Outline your primary research goals in big notes (1 page).

2.1.4. Indicate the significance of the project and the expected benefits (as per The Code 2.2.36 (a))
   Use big notes where possible. Your response should demonstrate to a layperson why you believe
   the research is worth conducting.

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The Forms

2.3.6. Outline what consideration has been given to each of the 3Rs (Replacement, Reduction and
   Refinement) in developing this project.

FRAME
MAWA
ETHIWEB

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The Forms

1.1.2. Give details (sequentially) on what happens to the animal(s) from the time obtained to the
   time the project is completed, and detail how any impact on the animal(s) will be minimised.
   Use a flow chart or sequence of events where possible. Refer to the appended Checklist from ARB
   to ensure all details have been considered.

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The Forms

CHECKLIST

.started here

Divided this way
Divided this way
Divided this way
Divided this way
Also did this
And this
And did this
And led to this

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- Read the questions properly
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Ask a colleague to read it
- Sign it and ensure all parts are completed
DON'T …………

- Cut and paste
- Refer to other approvals
- Give references without explanation
- Give justifications without references
- Say “I know what I am doing”

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The Forms

The Code, The Guidelines

The Acts, Regulations

MQ

The AEC

AWO

Research Approval, Monitoring and Reporting & success

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Biosafety / Biohazards

1.7. Biosafety and PHS.5

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Thank you