

## ANIMAL WELFARE & ETHICAL REVIEW BODY

Minutes: 1:30pm, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022, Online meeting

	Items.	AWERB Outcome
1	Attendance: 11 X Committee members 1 x observer	
2	Minutes of the last meeting.	
2.1	Approved and finalised for ASUMB.	Ongoing
3	Matters arising from the notes of previous meeting (18 <sup>th</sup> January 2022)	
3.1	3.1 ELH joined this meeting to discuss communications regarding the appointment of an external Chair, confirming a workshop will be held with current AWERB members.	Ongoing
3.2	3.2 Previous Biostatistician role-holder is no longer available. To feed back to ASUMB	Ongoing
3.3	3.3 Progress and plans of the Online Study Plans.	Ongoing
3.4	3.4 NVS is awaiting feedback regarding the new reporting guidelines for Standard Condition 18 reports.	Ongoing
3.5	4.1 Workshop held for PPL holders regarding the generation of SOPs.	Ongoing
3.6	17.3 Upcoming procurement workshop regarding outsourcing breeding.	Ongoing
3.7	PPL.1Nov21 changes received and approved.	Complete
3.8	PPL.1Jan22 reviewed by subcommittee and further changes approved.	Complete
3.9	Dec VIN.7 21 changes received and approved.	Complete
4	Chair's Report	

4.1	Chair highlighted success of SOP Workshop and encourages regularity of future internal CPD activities.	
5	NTCO Report.	
5.1	Training and Competency monthly review discussed.	
5.2	Expiry notifications are now live on training and competency software.	
6	NIO Report.	
6.1	Relevant webinars and 3Rs information circulated to stakeholders.	Approved
6.2	Permission requested to set up mailing list for AWERB Members	
6.3	Taken over organisation of ASU communication events	
6.4	Reader analytics from the recent ASU newsletter	
6.5	Voluntary submissions of relevant content from research community continue	
7	NVS Report.	
7.1	2 x Standard Condition 18 Reports filed with no following welfare issues.	Complete
8	NACWO reports.	
8.1	High top caging introduced for handling rats.	
8.2	No welfare concerns at animal facilities.	
8.3	NACWO-led development of in-pen urine collection providing refinement for the study	
9	Project Licences – New Applications.	
9.1	PPL.1Feb22 Aims: This project addresses fundamental questions about the brain's responses to acute and chronic stress with a focus on the identifying molecular mechanisms which underlie these responses and how stress can impact on brain development.	Not approved in current form. Chair to discuss further with applicant and recommend resubmission.

	<p>Cost: The project requires animals to experience acute and chronic stressors to activate the relevant hormonal and neural networks. This requires an in vivo model to encompass the integrated systems which control the stress response.</p> <p>Benefit: The studies will develop core knowledge about the processes which are involved in the stress response. In both the short and medium term, this will be of academic significance but with the potential to lead to a better understanding of how these processes are altered in pathological states such as the development of psychiatric disorders. In the longer-term, this may lead to novel targets for treatment.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choice of models and types of acute and chronic stressors being used</li> <li>• Adverse effects and endpoints</li> <li>• Severity classification and potential implications of cumulative suffering</li> <li>• Refinements achieved from previous licence</li> <li>• Use and descriptions of behavioural tests</li> <li>• Frequency and duration of stressors</li> <li>• Organisation of controls</li> <li>• Decision hierarchy and how frequency and duration of the chronic stress manipulation is determined</li> <li>• Cumulative suffering</li> </ul>	
10	Project Licences – Amendments.	
10.1	PPLAmend.1Feb22 Update to adverse effects.	Approved
10.2	PPLAmend.3Dec21 Resubmission Additional clarifications and endpoints provided.	Approved subject to minor changes.
10.3	PPLAmend.4Dec21 Resubmission Update to adverse effects Additional clarification of procedural requirements and aims provided.	Approved subject to minor change.
11	Project Licence Reviews	
11.1	Mid Term Review (None)	
11.2	Home Office Retrospective Reviews.	

11.2.1	(None)	
11.3 11.3.1	Final Reviews. Final.1Feb22 Novel treatment for glaucoma. Refinements include improved imaging techniques and use of anaesthetic. Multiple publications resulting from the work with direct translational potential.	Approved
12	Report on Non-Regulated Projects UIN and VIN applications.	
12.1	Non-Regulated Projects – UINs  Reviewed: 1 - 5 AWERB approved: 1, 2, 5 AWERB approved pending clarifications: 4, 3 AWERB did not yet approve:	Secretary to inform
12.1.1	UINs to note:  4 – applicants are advised to consult with the Human Research committee to clarify if they must disclose their photo data collection to the public organisations suggested within the application  3 – discuss potential methodological improvements and potential success rates with NVS	
12.2	Non-Regulated Projects – VINs.  Reviewed: VIN.1-6 AWERB approved: 1, 3, 4, 5, AWERB approved pending clarifications: 2, AWERB not yet approved: 6	Secretary to inform
12.2.1	VINs to note:  2 – Formatting update required to consent form.  6 – Clarity required on contact routes.	
13	Non-Regulated Projects - UIN and VIN amendments (None)	

14	AWERB Hub. (None)	
16	For Information. (None)	
17 17.1	Any Other Business. University policy on the employment requirements of PPL Holders.	Secretary to provide Chair with relevant policy. Chair to raise as ASUMB
17.2	NVS to include preface of purpose of AWERB to be included within PPL writing guidance slides.	
18.	<b>Dates of Next Meetings</b> (Online until further notice): 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 26 <sup>th</sup> April 2022 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2022 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2022 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	