

Ethics Committee  
International Union of Physiological Sciences  
Annual Report  
July 1, 2013

The Ethics Committee has been occupied with a number of activities throughout the year including the organization of the Symposium for the 37<sup>th</sup> IUPS Congress to be held in Birmingham, UK. This information is provided below, along with a current list of the Ethics Committee membership. Members of the Ethics Committee in attendance at the IUPS Congress in Birmingham will meet to review and discuss the Membership and Terms of Reference for this committee including the relationship with ICLAS and CIOMS and current ethics issues related to animal care and publication ethics.

1. The Ethics Committee has had one change to its membership this year. Dr. Adrian Morrison (USA) stepped down and was replaced by Dr. Bill Yates. Dr. Morrison was a longstanding member of this committee, active in the care and welfare of animals used in research. Dr. Morrison was also the co-organizer for the Ethics Symposium during the 36<sup>th</sup> IUPS Congress, Kyoto. Dr. Yates comes with considerable experience in the care and wellbeing of animals used in physiological research and is currently a member of the Board of Trustees with Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) International.

The current membership of the Ethics Committee includes:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Member since</b>
Dr. Ashima Anand	India	2003
Dr. Pat Buckley	Australia	2011
Dr. Theophile Godfraind	Belgium	2004
Dr. Kamil Javorka	Slovakia	2003
Dr. Kiyoshi Kurata	Japan	2011
Dr. Penny Moody-Corbett, Chair	Canada	2003
Dr. Bill Yates	USA	2013

2. The Ethics Committee will host a symposium during the 37<sup>th</sup> Congress, on July 23, titled: *Synthetic Biology: Scientific progress or ethical dilemma?* The Symposium will begin with a presentation on the biological achievements and prospects of synthetic biology given by Dr. François Kepes (FR) on "Selected scientific topics on Synthetic Biology". To begin the discussion of the ethical implications of this research Professor Thomas Baldwin (UK) will provide a lecture on: "Ethical aspects of the use of animals containing human material". These two presentations will be followed by three talks on the legal and psychosocial implications of this research given by: Dr. Djims Milius (CA and SA): "Legal knowledge gaps and constructs in synthetic biology – a comparative

review of the state of the art”; Research Fellow Catherine Rhodes (UK): “Who owns living organisms issued from synthetic biology” and Dr. Dorothée Benoit Browaeys (FR): “Psychosocial implications of building synthetic organisms”.

3. The Ethics Committee will also host a meeting with editors from a number of Physiology journals to discuss how the journals handle ethical issues that arise during publication and to identify what role the Ethics Committee may play in this respect. Twenty-five journals were contacted for this meeting, which will be held July 25.
4. The Ethics Committee provided support to the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) on their document: Ethical guidelines for peer reviewers (<http://publicationethics.org/resources/guidelines>).
5. Two members of the Ethics Committee (Drs. Ashima Anand and Penny Moody-Corbett) attended the World Congress on Research Integrity in Montreal, Canada. During this meeting Dr. Anand gave a presentation on “Essentials of determining authorship” in the session on *Publication Ethics: Authorship*. Highlights of the meeting are available at [http://wcri2013.org/overview\\_e.shtml](http://wcri2013.org/overview_e.shtml). One outcome of the meeting was the Montreal Statement on Research Integrity in Cross-Boundary Research Collaboration, which is available at the following website: [http://wcri2013.org/Montreal Statement\\_e.shtml](http://wcri2013.org/Montreal Statement_e.shtml).

We would also like to acknowledge the passing of two very well-known members of the International Congress of Laboratory Animal Sciences (ICLAS): Dr. Tatsuji Nomura and Dr. Harry Rozmiarek. Both of these individuals had played very prominent and important roles in ICLAS and will be greatly missed by the community.

Penny Moody-Corbett  
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