



ANIMAL WELFARE

National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee

Annual Report 1 January to 31 December 2015

National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee
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New Zealand

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NAEAC

National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee

Contents

Chairperson's comment	3
Membership	4
Fees	5
Animal Ethics Committees	6
Issues for the year	6
NAEAC Awards	6

Chairperson's comment

This is my final comment as Chair of NAEAC, my term having ended on 31 October 2015. It's been an interesting six years, with a variety of challenging issues to deal with. Of particular note has been the review of the animal welfare legislation, NAEAC having been closely involved in addressing issues to do with Part 6 of the Act which deals with the use of animals in research, testing and teaching.

I have been fortunate to work with such a band of dedicated committee members, including in particular Deputy Chair Professor Craig Johnson, who put so much work into ensuring NAEAC's effectiveness. My heartfelt thanks also to MPI's Linda Carsons and Paula Lemow who have unfailingly managed to ensure the smooth running of the committee over the last six years.

Finally I'd like to wish new Chair Grant Shackell all the best for the next six years. I know he will do a great job.



Virginia Williams
Chair

Membership

Members	Expiry of Appointment
Dr Virginia M Williams BVSc, MACVSc, Dip Prof Ethics, Animal Welfare Consultant (Independent Chairperson)	31.10.15
Mr Grant H Shackell Dip Ag, Dip Field Technology, MSc, Retired scientist (Independent Chairperson)	31.10.18
Dr Karen Booth BSc, BVSc, CertVR, MACVSc, Manager Regulatory Affairs, Zoetis (nominated by Agcarm Inc)	31.10.16
Ms Therese (Terry) M Burrell BSc (Hons), Dip Tchg, Learning Area Leader, Science, Onslow College (nominated by the Ministry of Education)	31.10.18
Mr Stephen G Cairns BCom (VPM), Dip Grad, Strategic Development Manager, Arrow International (NZ) Ltd (nominated by Local Government New Zealand)	31.10.15
Ms Leasa C Carlyon JP, Dip Bus, Judicial Justice of the Peace (nominated by the Ministry for Women; replaced Mr Stephen Cairns)	31.10.18
Dr Bronwen Connor BSc, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology, The University of Auckland (nominated by the Ministry for Women; replaced Dr Peter Larsen)	31.10.18
Dr Craig Gillies BSc, PhD, Scientific Officer (nominated by the Department of Conservation; replaced Mr Bruce Warburton)	31.10.18
Dr Peter D Larsen BSc (Hons), PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Surgery and Anaesthesia, University of Otago, Wellington (nominated by the Royal Society of New Zealand)	31.10.15
Mr Graeme A Nind MNZM, JP (nominated by the Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals)	31.10.16
Dr Malcolm D Tingle BSc (Hons), PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology & Clinical Pharmacology, The University of Auckland (nominated by the Health Research Council of New Zealand)	31.10.16
Mr Bruce Warburton MSc, Scientist (nominated by Landcare Research New Zealand Ltd)	31.10.15

Professor Craig Johnson was elected Deputy Chairperson for 2015.

Fees

Government policy requires disclosure of fees paid to members of statutory boards and committees. The daily fee paid to committee members during 2015 was \$400 for members and \$550 for the chairperson.

Members are paid the fee for attending meetings, with an allowance for preparation time. Members are also reimbursed for travelling expenses. In addition, the chairperson and, on occasion, other members may be paid additional fees for representing the committee at other meetings or for carrying out significant extra work on the committee's behalf.

The table below lists the fees paid during 2015.

Member	Fees paid during 2015 (gross)
V Williams	\$10 725.00
G Shackell	\$2 000.00
K Booth ¹	\$0.00
T Burrell	\$3 200.00
S Cairns	\$2 600.00
L Carlyon	\$1 000.00
B Connor	\$600.00
C Gillies ²	\$0.00
C Johnson	\$5 000.00
P Larsen	\$0.00
G Nind	\$2 600.00
M Tingle	\$3 200.00
B Warburton ³	\$1 600.00

¹ Zoetis employees forgo acceptance of meeting fees in accordance with company policy to act as a good corporate citizen and materially assist public good operations where practicable.

² Public servants do not receive meeting fees.

³ Fees are paid direct to the member's employer to recompense them for time lost from the member's primary employment

Animal ethics committees

NAEAC sees its function of providing information and advice to AECs as important in promoting good decision-making. Apart from responding to requests for advice, activities in this area in 2015 included:

- AEC visits – Once a year, NAEAC visits AECs in a region of the country. In 2015, those visits were made in the Palmerston North region and included:
 - Massey University;
 - AgResearch Grasslands; and
 - Estendart Ltd.

Where and when possible, NAEAC members also attend AEC meetings in their area.

- AEC newsletters – Two newsletters from the Chair were sent out during 2015, including advice on issues that had been raised during the year.

Issues for the year

- Three codes of ethical conduct were reviewed during the year.
- Animal Welfare Act 1999 review – a NAEAC subcommittee was formed to assist MPI with issues relating to the changes to the animal welfare legislation.
- NAEAC published its 12th Occasional Paper in October: *The blind leading the blind: animal facility staff and researchers working together to reduce bias in animal research*. This paper was presented at the 2014 ANZCCART Conference, and was published with ANZCCART's permission.
- Mini-tutorials held to expand members' understanding of issues arising from research, testing and teaching using animals included:
 - The sentience of fish (Professor Peter Davie, Massey University)
 - Computer-aided learning resources (Neil Ward, Massey University)
 - Pursuing good science: animal welfare training for university students (Bridget Brox, Victoria University).

NAEAC awards

- The 2015 NAEAC Three Rs award, sponsored by the Royal New Zealand SPCA, was presented to Neil Ward of Massey University for his development of computer-aided learning resources. These resources resulted in a drop in the number of animals used in Massey's physiology classes from 600 to just one.
- An AEC Service award, as well as a letter of commendation from NAEAC, were presented to Bridget Brox, a PhD student studying psychology at Victoria University. Bridget developed a training module for students using animals at the university.

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