

Sir James Dunn Animal Welfare Centre (SJDAWC) activities and accomplishments—2010

Chair in Animal Welfare – Dr. Michael Cockram

Coordinator – Dr. Alice Crook

Highlights

- Conference: Animal Welfare in Practice—Exotics Pets, September 17-18 (2 external and 2 AVC speakers; co-organized with AVC Animal Welfare Club, M Desmarchelier, and Wildlife and Exotics Club; funding SJDAWC Outreach, and Student Project Fund (SPF), and Animal Welfare Foundation of Canada (AWFC).
- AVC team third in 10th Annual Intercollegiate Animal Welfare Judging & Assessment Contest, MSU (details below).

Teaching activities

- “Animal Behaviour and Welfare”: 8 lecture hours M Cockram; 2 hours A Crook
- “Directed Studies: Animal welfare assessment in research” (M Cockram).
- Intern seminar “Animal abuse—effective veterinary response” (A Crook)
- Proposed: (M Cockram coordinator)
 - “Animal Welfare and Assessment”; new 2-week senior rotation to culminate with student participation in annual Intercollegiate Animal Welfare Judging and Assessment Contest
- (A Crook) CVMA (Canadian Veterinary Medical Association) sponsored lecture tour on animal abuse to 4 English Canadian veterinary colleges (Calgary, Saskatoon, Guelph, Charlottetown); November.

Projects funded (list attached)

By external bodies: 1 research (AWFC) and 2 service projects (Pegasus Family Foundation)

By SJDAWC:

- Completed 2010: 1 research (included grad student stipend—J Montgomery), 4 service projects
- Funded 2010: 1 research (includes grad student stipend—W Kelly-Clark), 5 service projects (3 were renewals)
- Ongoing: 9 research, 4 service projects

Graduate Students supervised by M Cockram at AVC

- RC Roy 2009-2012 Welfare issues associated with the transport and slaughter of horses (funded by AWFC).
- JE Ellis 2009-2012 Environmental enrichment to reduce stress in shelter cats.
- N Caffrey 2009-2012 Transportation of animals for slaughter in Canada (support from AWFC).
- Visiting scholar summer 2010: V Protopapadaki completed research project at AVC for MSc in Applied Animal Behaviour and Welfare, University of Edinburgh, under supervision of M Cockram and J Ellis.

Student related animal welfare activities

- 10th Annual Intercollegiate Animal Welfare Judging & Assessment Contest, Michigan State U., Nov. 21-22; AVC team of 5 students placed 3rd in veterinary division; Josh Aalders (AVC 2013) tied for 3rd place in individual placing; student expenses covered by SJDAWC Student Project Fund with assistance from AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association), and UFAW (Universities Federation for Animal Welfare, UK). M Cockram coach, with M Desmarchelier, D Sims, J Van Leeuwen specialty coaches.
- Christofor Award in Animal Welfare awarded to Josh Smith.
- Assistance from Student Project Fund to 8 senior students to travel to Shelter Medicine rotation at HLLC, PA, or BCSPCA, BC.

Scientific publications¹

- Langford FH, Cockram MS. 2010. Is sleep in animals affected by prior waking experiences? *Anim Welf.* 19:215-222.
- Caffrey N, Mounchili A, McConkey S, Cockram MS. 2011. Survey of euthanasia practices in animal shelters in Canada. *Can Vet J* 52:55-61.
Accepted for publication
- Cockram MS, Shaw DJ, Milne E, Bryce R, McClean C, Daniels MJ. Comparison of effects of different methods of culling red deer by shooting on behaviour and post-mortem measurements of blood chemistry, muscle glycogen and carcass characteristics. *Animal Welfare.*
- Nicholas F, Crook A, Sargan D. Internet resources on inherited disorders in dogs. *Austr Vet J (publication June 2011)*

¹ M Cockram and A Crook only; publication information from completed SJDAWC projects is omitted due to space limitations.

Book chapters

- Cockram MS, Hughes BO. Health and Disease. Chapter 8. In *Animal Welfare*. 2nd edition. Edited by Appleby M, Hughes B, Mench J, Olsson A. CABI, Wallingford, UK (*In Press*)
- Crook A. Pain and Animal Welfare. Chapter 1. In: *Pain Management in Veterinary Practice*. Egger C, Doherty T (eds). Wiley-Blackwell (*invited submission*)

Other publications

- Newsletters “AWC News” #24 (winter 2010) and 25 (summer 2010).
- Lemke K, Crook A. Examples of Anaesthetic and Pain Management Protocols for Healthy Dogs and Cats. 2nd edition of poster produced by CVMA and the SJDAWC 2005 (*in final revisions, anticipated printing 2011*).

Presentations at conferences and meetings

- Cockram MS. 2010. Welfare implications of methods used to kill wildlife. Abstract p163. In *Proc 44th Cong ISAE*, Uppsala, Sweden. ed. L. Lidfors, H. Blokhuis and L. Keeling. Wageningen Academic Publishers, the Netherlands.
- Cockram MS. 2010. *Animal Welfare Research*. AVC Seminar Series October 15, 2010.

Administrative activities

Reports

- SJDAWC 2010 Interim Report, to Friends of the Christofor Foundation (March).
- Reports to Pegasus Family Foundation re Pegasus Neutering and Helping Hand Programmes (February and August).
- AVC Advisory Council (May and November).
- SJDAWC 2010 Annual Report to Sir James Dunn and Christofor Foundations (December).

Other

- Information on SJDAWC activities for MRSB economic impact assessment and for 2010 CVER Annual Report.
- Maintain SJDAWC website; administrative matters associated with SJDAWC-funded projects.

External activities

Committee memberships

- (M Cockram) Board Director, Atlantic Poultry Research Institute; member CFIA Advisory Group on Humane Destruction of Swine; member of national committee to review Equine Code of Practice; Chair, CVMA Expert Panel to review CFIA's regulation of horse handling and slaughter in Canada.
- (A Crook) member, CVMA Animal Welfare Committee Small Animal Sub-committee; Vice-president Board of Directors, Animal Welfare Foundation of Canada; member, Eastern Parks Canada Animal Care Committee.

Media activity

- Various interviews: cosmetic surgery, animal abuse, puppy mills, federal animal cruelty legislation.

Events

- AVC Open House; September—over 3,000 visitors.

Animal welfare peer review (M Cockram)

- Edited papers for *Animal* and refereed papers for *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* and *Animal Welfare*.
- Member, College of Reviewers for Canada Research Chairs.

Other

- M Cockram—faculty liaison AVC AW Club and Universities Federation for Animal Welfare, UK, and Humane Slaughter Association, UK; working on setting up VRE for animal welfare research to link to SJDAWC website.
- A Crook—worked with PEI Crown Prosecutor as expert witness in animal cruelty case, September-October.

Research projects

Completed 2010

The effect of organic and inorganic selenium supplementation on selenium status of mares and selenium status and immune function of their foals. J Wichtel, F Markham, J McClure, M McNiven, M Wichtel, J Montgomery

Current projects

- Trichomoniasis, an emerging disease in Canadian Maritime wild finch populations and a welfare issue. S McBurney, M Forzan, S Greenwood, R Vanderstichel
- Vagal maneuvers in dogs and cats: a prospective study. E Côté
- Serologic testing for the detection of *Angiostrongylus vasorum* infection in dogs in Newfoundland. G Conboy, F Markham, H Stryhn
- The effect of a new regional nerve block on intraoperative isoflurane requirements and cardiopulmonary function, and on postoperative analgesia, neurohormonal responses, and platelet function in dogs undergoing surgical procedures of the front limb. K Lemke, L Lamont, P Moak, B Horney, C Runyon, T Bailey
- Survival profile of Standardbred horses on PEI. S Dohoo, I Dohoo
- Association between airway cytology and pulmonary function in Maritime racing Standardbreds at high risk for inflammatory airway disease. M Wichtel, W Duckett, S Burton, A Hoffman
- Welfare issues associated with the transport and slaughter of horses. M Cockram, I Dohoo
- Transportation of animals for slaughter in Canada: current practices, welfare issues, and regulatory control. M Cockram, I Dohoo, V Black
- Occurrence of renal disease associated with excess body weight in otherwise healthy dogs. D Shaw, K Tefft, S Ihle, S Burton, P Foley, H Gelens
- Environmental enrichment to reduce stress in shelter cats. M Cockram, J Spears, H Stryhn
- Study of injuries associated with the handling and transport of horses for slaughter. M Cockram

Service projects

Current projects

- Trap-neuter-return coordinator. AM Carey, E Schoales
- Animal-assisted activities with AVC teaching beagles. J Spears, J McClure
- Financial aid to neuter companion animals of owners with low incomes. P Foley
- AVC humane dog training programme. N Guy, B MacLean
- Wildlife and marine mammal rehabilitation (including displaced or orphaned wildlife care). M Desmarchelier, H Gelens, P-Y Daoust
- Chinook Project—providing veterinary care to Northern communities. L Miller, J Magrath, M Hopson
- Medical and surgical care of homeless animals. C Runyon, P Foley, D Dunn, MS MacLean
- Health management services for the PEI Equine Retirement Society, Inc. W Duckett, G Conboy
- Health management services for Handibear Hills Equine Sanctuary, Inc. W Duckett, G Conboy
- Neutering feral cats on PEI. P Foley
- Pegasus feral cat neutering programme. A Crook, M Hopson, MS MacLean
- Pegasus helping hand fund. A Crook, MS MacLean