



# SJDAWC

## 2014 *Annual Report*



### SIR JAMES DUNN ANIMAL WELFARE CENTRE *at the Atlantic Veterinary College*

PROMOTING ANIMAL WELFARE THROUGH RESEARCH, SERVICE, AND EDUCATION

ATLANTIC VETERINARY COLLEGE  
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## 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

*Sir James Dunn Animal Welfare Centre, Atlantic Veterinary College, University of Prince Edward Island*

### MANDATE

The Sir James Dunn Animal Welfare Centre exists to promote animal welfare by generating and disseminating impartial and scientifically based knowledge and understanding of animal welfare issues.

The Centre facilitates, focuses, and coordinates academic and research resources at the Atlantic Veterinary College to carry out animal welfare research and education, and to provide information and advice to industry, government, organizations, and the public.

### STRUCTURE

The SJDAWC is governed by a Management Board that reports to the Dean of the Atlantic Veterinary College. There is an executive committee, various working committees, a Centre coordinator, and a Chair in Animal Welfare.

### MANAGEMENT BOARD

#### Ex-officio:

- » DR. DAN HURNIK, INTERIM DEAN, Atlantic Veterinary College, Interim Chair, Management Board
- » DR. MICHAEL COCKRAM, Chair in Animal Welfare
- » DR. ALICE CROOK, Coordinator, SJDAWC
- » DR. LARRY HAMMELL, Chair of Health Management
- » MS. ANNA MACDONALD, AVC External Relations Officer

#### Members appointed by AVC Dean's council:

- » DR. LUIS BATE, Department of Biomedical Sciences
- » DR. ETIENNE CÔTÉ, Department of Companion Animals
- » DR. PIERRE-YVES DAOUST, Department of Pathology and Microbiology
- » DR. MARY MCNIVEN, Department of Health Management
- » DR. JIM GOLTZ, Manager, Veterinary Laboratory and Pathology Services, New Brunswick Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries; External representative to Management Board

### SJDAWC ACTIVITIES IN 2014

Animal welfare activities undertaken or funded by the SJDAWC

#### MEETINGS

##### 10th annual Animal Welfare in Practice conference: Mink Farming

Co-hosted with the AVC Animal Welfare Club in October. The conference focused on the welfare of farmed mink, with reference to the NFACC *Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Farmed Mink 2013*. Speakers were Dr. Georgia Mason, Canada Research Chair in Animal Welfare, University of Guelph; Dr. Kirsti Rouvinen-Watt, Dalhousie, Faculty of Agriculture; Dr. Jim Goltz, Manager, NB Veterinary Laboratory and Pathology Services; Kirk Rankin, Chair, NFACC Farmed Mink Code Development Committee and mink farmer, St. Mary's, ON; and Dr. Dave MacHattie, Mink Medicine and Production, Middleton Veterinary Services, NS.

Speakers' presentations can be found at [awc.upei.ca](http://awc.upei.ca).

#### GRANTS AWARDED

The SJDAWC, through an annual competition, provides funding for research and service projects.

#### SERVICE

##### Service grants 2014

DUCKETT W, CONBOY G. Health management services for Handibear Hills Equine Sanctuary, Inc. (funding renewed for 2014-16)

DUCKETT W, CONBOY G. Health management services for PEI Equine Retirement Society, Inc. (funding renewed for 2014-16)

MCDUFFEE L. Introduction of positive reinforcement theory and techniques to promote humane handling of equine patients at the AVC's Large Animal Hospital

MOAK P, FOLEY P, MACDONALD R, MACLEAN M. Medical and surgical care of homeless animals (funding renewed for 2014-16)

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CROOK A, LING K Pegasus feral cat neuter programme (funding renewed semi-annually)<sup>1</sup>

### Ongoing service projects

The SJDAWC supports several ongoing service projects, reviewed annually or bi-annually.

- » CAREY AM, MACLEAN R. AVC humane dog training programme (with PEI Humane Society)
- » SPEARS J. Clinical wildlife care
- » FOLEY P. Feral cat neutering programmes (with PEI Cat Action Team).
- » HOPSON M, MILLER L. Chinook Project (funded independently since 2011)

Please visit [awc.upei.ca/Service\\_projects](http://awc.upei.ca/Service_projects) for more information about these and other service projects.

## RESEARCH

### Research grants 2014

VANLEEUWEN J, MCKENNA S, GITAU G, ALERI J. Research and training to improve stall design and management for better cow welfare and productivity on smallholder dairy farms in Kenya

### On-going research projects

COCKRAM MS, REVIE CW. Identification of risk factors during broiler transportation that influence injury and mortality. Funded by SJDAWC and Canadian Poultry Research Council

COCKRAM M, DOHOO I, BLACK V. Transportation of animals for slaughter in Canada: current practices, welfare issues, and regulatory control

MCCLURE J, MUCKLE A, SAAB M. Comparing culture methods for methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius* (MRSP) from unhealthy dogs

### Graduate students funded or partially funded by the SJDAWC

#### Degrees awarded

JACKLYN ELLIS. PHD. Thesis title: Environmental enrichment to reduce stress in shelter cats

DANIA VILLARNOVO. MVSC. Thesis title: Enhancing animal welfare by potentially improving ease of predicting transfusion reactions in dogs, cats and horses

### Examinations completed

R CYRIL ROY. PHD Thesis title: Welfare of horses transported to slaughter in Canada and Iceland: assessment of welfare issues and associated risk factors

### Current students

KETAN DULAL. Identification of risk factors during broiler transportation that influence injury and mortality

NIAMH CAFFREY. Transportation of animals for slaughter in Canada: Current practice, welfare issues, and regulatory control

SHAUNA RICHARDS. Research and training to improve stall design and management for better cow welfare and productivity on smallholder dairy farms in Kenya

MATTHEW SAAB. Can selective culture methods detect more methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius* infections in companion animals compared to current culture methods?

### Visiting post-doctoral fellow

DR. ESTER BARTOLOMÉ MEDINA. Department of Agro-forestry Sciences, University of Seville, Spain, June and July

## PUBLICATIONS

### Book Chapter

COCKRAM MS. 2014. Sheep Transport. In: Grandin T, ed. Livestock Handling and Transport. 4th edition. CABI Publishing, Wallingford, Oxon, UK, 228-244.

### Journals

ELLIS JJ, PROTOPAPADAKI V, STRYHN H, SPEARS J, COCKRAM MS. 2014. Behavioural and faecal glucocorticoid metabolite responses of single caging in six cats over 30 days. *Veterinary Record Open*; 1:e000056. doi:10.1136/vropen-2014-000056

VANDERSTICHEL R, FORZÁN MJ, PÉREZ GE, SERPELL JA, GARDE E. 2014. Changes in blood testosterone concentrations after surgical and chemical sterilization of male free-roaming dogs in southern Chile. *Theriogenology* dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.theriogenology.2014.12.001

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<sup>1</sup> This programme is funded separately by the Pegasus Family Foundation through the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

SPEARS J, KAMUNDE C, STEVENS ED. 2014. Effect of TRIS and bicarbonate as buffers on anesthetic efficacy of tricaine methane sulfonate in zebrafish (*Dania rerio*). *Zebrafish* 11(6):590-596. doi:10.1089/zeb.2014.0975

GUY NC, HOPSON M, VANDERSTICHEL R. 2014. Litterbox size preference in domestic cats (*Felis catus*). *J Vet Behaviour* 9:78-82.

WOODLAND M, PACK L, RIST P, CRANE B. 2014. Comparison of digital radiography, ultrasonography, and positive contrast vaginourethrography for determining reproductive status of female cats. *Vet Rad Ultrasound* 55(4):368-373.

FORZÁN MJ, GARDE E, PÉREZ GE, VANDERSTICHEL RV. 2014. Necrosuppurative orchitis and scrotal necrotizing dermatitis following intratesticular administration of zinc gluconate neutralized with arginine (EsterilSol™) in 2 mixed-breed dogs. *Vet Path* 51(4):820-823.

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

COCKRAM MS. Sleep in sheep. Sleep seminar. Department of Animal Nutrition and Management, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala, Sweden. December 2014.

ROY RC, COCKRAM MS, DOHOO IR. Welfare of horses transported to slaughter in Canada: assessment of welfare and journey risk factors. Proceedings of the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Assessment of Animal Welfare at Farm and Group Level, September 2014, Clermont-Ferrand, France. (ed. L Mounier, I Veissier). Wageningen Academic Publishers, The Netherlands. p172.

ROY RC, COCKRAM MS, DOHOO IR, RAGNARSSON S. Welfare of horses transported to slaughter in Iceland. Proceedings of the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Assessment of Animal Welfare at Farm and Group Level, September 2014, Clermont-Ferrand, France. (ed. L Mounier, I Veissier). Wageningen Academic Publishers, The Netherlands. p173.

ROY RC, COCKRAM MS. Analysis of owner/shipper certificates for transport of horses from the USA for slaughter in Canada. Proceedings of the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Assessment of Animal Welfare at Farm and Group Level, September 2014, Clermont-Ferrand, France. (ed. L Mounier, I Veissier). Wageningen Academic Publishers, The Netherlands. p248.

ELLIS JJ, STRYHN H, SPEARS J, COCKRAM MS. Effect of environmental type on the behavioural and glucocorticoid responses of bold and shy cats to single caging. Proceedings of the 48<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Society for Applied Ethology, July/August 2014, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain (ed. I Estevez, X Mantenca, RH Marin, X Averos). Wageningen Academic Publishers, The Netherlands. p234.

WICHTEL M, GOMEZ D, BURTON S, WICHTEL J, HOFFMAN A. Relationships between equine airway reactivity and specific indicators of airway inflammation in horses suspected of having inflammatory airway disease. Veterinary Comparative Respiratory Society annual meeting, New Bolton Center, Pennsylvania, October 2014.

WICHTEL M. Diagnosis of inflammatory airway disease: a comparison between old and new modalities. Proceedings of the 2014 CVMA Convention, St. John's, NL. July 2014. p333-338.

SAAB M, WEESE JS, MUCKLE CA, MCCLURE JT. Comparing traditional and selective culture methodology for the detection of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius* in clinical canine specimens. American Society for Microbiology 114<sup>th</sup> General Meeting, May 2014, Boston, MA.

SAAB M, WEESE JS, MUCKLE CA, MCCLURE JT. Comparing traditional and selective culture methodology for the detection of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius* in clinical canine specimens. Canadian Animal Health Laboratorians Network Annual Meeting, May 2014, Ottawa, ON.

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### **AVC Graduate Studies and Research Day Presentations May 2014**

SAAB M. Comparing traditional and selective culture methodology for the detection of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus pseudintermedius* in clinical canine specimens

### **Newsletters and non-peer reviewed publications** SJDAWC News #30—Spring 2014

“Animal Talk”—monthly newspaper column on issues related to companion animal welfare—CAWI members, A Crook editor [gov.pe.ca/agriculture/CAWI](http://gov.pe.ca/agriculture/CAWI)

### **VETERINARY STUDENT EDUCATION**

VHM125 Year 1 course in Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare.

VHM412 Year 4 course on Animal Welfare Regulation and Assessment.

CROOK A. Animal abuse and effective veterinary response. AVC Animal Welfare and Shelter Medicine Clubs, February

COCKRAM MS. Animal Welfare Research: Opportunities and Challenges. AVC Summer Research and Leadership Programme, May

AVC student team placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Veterinary Division of the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Intercollegiate Animal Welfare Judging and Assessment Contest, Michigan State University, in November. Student Tim Cashin had the third highest individual performance in the Veterinary Division.

### **COMMITTEE/BOARD MEMBERSHIPS**

M COCKRAM

- » Board of Directors, Atlantic Poultry Research Institute
- » Editorial Board, Section Editor “Behaviour, Health, and Welfare” for *Animal: International Journal of Animal Bioscience*
- » Editorial board, *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science*

A CROOK

- » Member, Canadian Veterinary Medical Association Small Animal Sub-committee of Animal Welfare Committee

- » Board of Trustees (Executive member and Past President) Animal Welfare Foundation of Canada
- » Chair, PEI Companion Animal Welfare Initiative Member, working group reviewing PEI animal welfare legislation

### **AWARDS (AVC GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH DAYS, MAY 2014)**

- » ZOETIS GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD—DR. SHAUNA RICHARDS, PHD STUDENT: Research and training to improve stall design and management for better cow welfare and productivity on smallholder dairy farms in Kenya
- » DR. E. ERROL HANCOCK SCHOLARSHIP—DR. SHAUNA RICHARDS, PHD STUDENT
- » JOHN AND CAROL MACLEOD AWARD FOR RESEARCH COMMUNICATION EXCELLENCE—MATTHEW SAAB, MSC STUDENT
- » 2014 CHRISTOFOR AWARD IN ANIMAL WELFARE — MELISSA PARSONS, AVC CLASS OF 2015

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### **FUNDING**

- » Sir James Dunn and Christofor Foundations—founding and sustaining funding
  - » Multi-year donors: Halifax Veterinary Hospital, Fairview Animal Hospital, Central Nova Animal Hospital, Glenn Loranger, Lara Jamieson, the late David Madren, the late Kay Alexandor, anonymous
  - » Project funding:
    - » Research support—Canadian Poultry Research Council, Vets Without Borders
    - » Feral cat neutering programme—Pegasus Family Foundation through Silicon Valley Community Foundation; Zoetis Canada; Iams and Eukanuba (P & G Pet Care).
    - » Chinook Project—Government of Newfoundland and Labrador; Ann McCain Evans; Rathlyn Foundation; Ms. Dorris Heffron; Zoetis Canada; Iams and Eukanuba (P & G Pet Care); Boehringer-Ingelheim; Vétquinol; the communities of Nain, Makkovik, and Postville; Air Labrador; the Victoria Kennel Club; Dr. Becky Jackson and Valley Veterinary Clinic, Goose Bay.
    - » AVC classes of 2011 and 2001 (Pegasus Helping Hand Fund)
  - » Many other generous individual supporters  
*in memoriam*
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## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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