Date: Monday, 02/11/15
Time: 3pm
Room: [Redacted]
Subject: AWERB 3Rs Committee

Present: [Redacted]

Apologies: [Redacted]

Others referred to in text: [Redacted]

MINUTES

1. Minutes
The Minutes of the meeting held on 5th October 2015 were approved.

2. Matters arising from the minutes
a) [Redacted] PPL - [Redacted] gave an overview of his discussions with [Redacted]. [Redacted] has subsequently amended his PPL and [Redacted] expressed his satisfaction with the changes made. The 3Rs committee endorsed [Redacted] recommendation that the 3Rs issues have been adequately addressed and the matter should be referred back to AWERB.

b) Review of primate environment – as the previous review of the primate environment was carried out a number of years ago, it was felt, with the support of [Redacted] that another review would be initiated. A subgroup involving [Redacted] and [Redacted] has convened, ideas will be collated and progress will be reported to the 3Rs group.

3. Retrospective reviews
There were no retrospective reviews submitted. The process for submitting retrospective reviews was discussed and will remain as before ie on NACWO and/or NVS recommendation.

4. Project Licence Applications
There were no project license applications submitted.

5. 3Rs information/reports
[Redacted] summarised the findings published in: ‘Risk of Bias in Reports of In Vivo Research: A Focus for Improvement.’ By Malcom R Macleod. It was agreed that the publication had raised issues that needed further exploration, related to experimental design, conduct and
publication. The committee therefore agreed to draft recommendations for experimental design with the intention of circulating these to PIL and PPL holders. In addition these recommendations will be emphasised at the PPL course.

6. Minutes of NPC Meeting held on 09/10/15
The minutes of the NPC meeting were not discussed.

7. Any other business
a) The committee discussed the possibility of identifying others with statistics experience to provide support for researchers in the University, and join the committee if appropriate, and give assistance to PPL’s. noted it could be possible for the University to formally appoint a ‘biostatistician’ with the specific aim of advising PPLs and PILs on animal experimental design and related matters. It was agreed that this idea should be further explored and escalated if appropriate.

b) queried the progress of the assistant staff projects presented by in a previous meeting. confirmed these were ongoing.

c) In addition to having a set agenda for this meeting, any member of the committee can add items to the agenda. Requests for agenda items will be sent in a timely fashion and at ideally one week before the meeting if there are papers for circulation. Items can also be added to the agenda under AOB at the meeting.

Action points
- Ongoing action: 2.b- to lead discussions with and others about the primate environment and meet with and to report back in due course.
- 5- and to put together recommendations on experimental design for PPL and PIL holders and report back by February 2016
- 7.a- and to explore the options for a statistician and report back by January 2016.
- 7.b- to follow up with and the status of staff projects.

Date of Next Meeting
Wednesday 2nd December 2015, 11.30am.