



Monthly newsletter

26th Edition – October 2015

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Notices and news

Research Animal Care and Ethics Training (RACE Training)

At our recent Animal Ethics Meeting, the AEC unanimously agreed that since the [Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes 2013 8th edition](#) was published after a number of researchers completed an Animal Ethics Course at various institutions (*both local and International*) and that there are differences between the different state legislations, that all researchers are required to complete Macquarie University's online training. Furthermore, all training is to be revised every three (3) years in order to maintain compliancy with Animal Ethics requirements.

Program objectives:

The overall aim of this program is to provide personnel using animals for scientific purposes with the knowledge and practical skills to ensure:

- compliance with the legislation
- humane animal use
- ethical animal use
- minimisation of risks associated with the use of animals



Potential participants:

Persons who are/will be working or studying in areas in which animals are used for research or teaching purposes (eg. students, experienced researchers who need to update their knowledge and animal care staff).

Presentation:

The program consists of on-line learning and practical sessions. Participants may participate in or attend all/any of the modules. However, it should be noted that some modules are prerequisites for other modules.

Request for a Macquarie OneID number:

1. A Macquarie OneID number will need to be assigned for each new researcher to be given access to this course via iLearn.
2. The Supervisor/Primary Investigator must email Macquarie University Informatics at onehelp@mq.edu.au in order to apply for a MQG or MOX OneID number for these new researchers.
3. Once you have received the OneID number from Informatics for the new researcher, please forward this OneID number, as well as their full name and email address to Dr Justin Clarke at animal.ethics@mq.edu.au.
4. Dr Justin Clarke will then enrol them for the RACE (*Research Animal Care and Ethics*) Training course via iLearn.
5. He will inform the new Researcher once they have passed the course and a certificate will be issued.

Registration:

If you have a valid Macquarie OneID number, please complete the [registration form](#) on the MARS WIKI and forward as directed on the form. Practical sessions are run on an 'as needs' basis. If you wish to attend any of these sessions, use the registration form to be waitlisted for the next available session and you will be contacted as soon as a session is scheduled. If you cannot attend a scheduled session you will remain on the waitlist for the next session.

PROGRAM OUTLINE AND STRUCTURE

Module 1: Introduction to the use of animals in research

Description:	On-line course covering the legislative and institutional requirements governing the use of animals for research and teaching at the Macquarie University, and the principles and practice of animal care and welfare.
Prerequisite:	Working or studying in areas in which animals are used for research or teaching purposes.
Delivery type:	Online only via iLearn .
Availability:	Continuous
Assessment:	On-line quiz which must be completed before proceeding to other modules
Additional information:	This module is administered through the Animal Ethics Office.

Module 2: Research animal care, handling, and basic research procedures.

Description:	Practical and online course concentrating on rats and mice. The module covers basic anatomy and physiology, handling and restraint, administration of substances (injection and gavage), blood collection, euthanasia and post mortem techniques. All participants have the opportunity to obtain "hands-on" experience with the demonstrated techniques.
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Prerequisite:	Working or studying in areas in which animals are used for research or teaching purposes. Ideally Module 1 should have been completed prior to attending Module 2, however this is not mandatory.
Delivery Type:	Online via iLearn , plus a 4 hour practical session.
Additional information:	This module is administered and run through the Central Animal Facility.

Module 3: Anaesthetic Techniques in Research Animals

Description:	Online learning combined with a practical session demonstrating the principles and techniques involved in rodent anaesthesia. Topics covered include gaseous and injectable anaesthesia; pre-anaesthetic assessment, monitoring and assessment of anaesthetic depth, and OHS issues associated with anaesthesia. All participants will have the opportunity to obtain "hands-on" experience with the basic techniques.
Prerequisite:	Completion of Module 2 or equivalent experience.
Delivery Type:	Online via iLearn , plus a 4 hour practical session.
Additional information:	This module is administered and run through the Central Animal Facility.

Module 4: Aseptic surgical techniques in research animals

Description:	Online and practical session for researchers who will be performing surgery on animals. Areas covered include instrument identification and use, suture selection and use, aseptic technique (including preparation of the facilities, equipment, animal and surgeon), making incisions, handling tissues, haemostasis, and wound closure techniques.
Prerequisite:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Completion of Module 3 or equivalent experience.2. Viewing of Introductory Videos. Prior to commencement of the practical session for Module 4, participants must have viewed the introductory videos on the "Principles of aseptic surgery", and "Laparotomy in the rat". Information about access to these videos is provided once you have enrolled in the module.
Delivery Type:	Online via iLearn , plus a practical session.
Additional information:	This module is administered and run through the Central Animal Facility.

Important AEC Information

Application Resources:

http://www.research.mq.edu.au/current_research_staff/animal_research_ethics/application_resources



Helpful hints to reduce AEC delays

- **Please do not download amendment/progress and final report forms and save them onto your computer for later use, as they are updated on an ongoing basis.** Always download a fresh form from this [web page](#).
- **Lodge applications well ahead of the closing date for submissions** - dates are published on the [Animal Ethics website](#).
- **Thoroughly proof read before lodging** - cut and paste errors in applications are surprisingly common.
- **Attach copies of all licences, permits and certificates**(e.g. from Fisheries/National Parks, Animal Ethics Training).
- **Use diagrams or flowcharts to show clearly what happens to the animals.**
- **Researchers should be reminded** that euthanasia is not 'death as an endpoint' but rather 'unconscious without recovery' as this is a much less invasive category.

Animal Ethics Calendar

Next Application submission deadline date 2015

Monday 23 November 2015

Next Animal Ethics Committee Meeting date 2015

Thursday 10 December 2015

Animal Ethics Committee Meeting dates

2015

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS	MEETING DATE
Monday 23 November 2015	Thursday 10 December 2015

2016

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS	MEETING DATE
Wednesday 27 January 2016	Thursday 18 February 2016
Monday 22 February 2016	Thursday 17 March 2016
Tuesday 29 March 2016	Thursday 14 April 2016
Tuesday 26 April 2016	Thursday 19 May 2016
Monday 30 May 2016	Thursday 16 June 2016
Monday 27 June 2016	Thursday 14 July 2016
Monday 25 July 2016	Thursday 18 August 2016
Monday 22 August 2016	Thursday 15 September 2016
Monday 26 September 2016	Thursday 20 October 2016
Monday 14 November 2016	Thursday 8 December 2016



MACQUARIE
University

www.animal.ethics@mq.edu.au

Animal Ethics

Contributions

If you would like to contribute to the Animal Ethics monthly newsletter, kindly email that content for the next month's newsletter.

Should you have any queries regarding your research, please do not hesitate to contact:

Animal Ethics Team

Animal.ethics@mq.edu.au, +61 (0) 2 9850 7758 / +61 (0) 439 497 383

Alternatively, for more information about AEC policies, procedures, forms and ethical clearance requirements, please go to our webpage at

http://www.research.mq.edu.au/for/researchers/how_to_obtain_ethics_approval/animal_ethic