



ICLAS: Oceania Regional Committee							
Meeting Agenda converted to Minutes during the meeting							
Time:	9 am NZDST						
Date:	16 June 2023						
Venue:	Online Teams link						
Attended:	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Jim Webster (Chair) NI, NZ</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Mike King SI, NZ – joined at 9:30am</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vanessa Borman (Secretary) NI, NZ</td> <td>Titus Zindove (in SI, NZ) Fiji – joined at 9:45am</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jodi Salinsky NI, NZ</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Jim Webster (Chair) NI, NZ	Mike King SI, NZ – joined at 9:30am	Vanessa Borman (Secretary) NI, NZ	Titus Zindove (in SI, NZ) Fiji – joined at 9:45am	Jodi Salinsky NI, NZ	
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Attachments	Scroll down to view: Annual Report template for Signatories and Supporters						
Apologies:	Patrick Sharp (in USA) Australia						
Useful link:	https://iclas.org/regional-committees						

Australian Openness Agreement Membership

ICLAS Oceania – enquiry to join the Australian Openness Agreement - request waive annual fee of A\$250. Does ICLAS Oceania want to join? Message from Malcolm 24/05

Since ICLAS Oceania does not perform animal research directly, it would sign the agreement as a Supporter (rather than a Signatory) and as an organisation run by volunteers, it would not be charged the annual subscription fee.

Finally, in order to make the annual reporting procedure as simple as possible, it has been decided that organisations may choose an alternative to the annual reporting template (attached) if they wish, provided of course that they can show that they are taking steps towards meeting the four commitments.

Could you please let me know if ICLAS Oceania is willing to proceed with signing the agreement? [openness-agreement-may23-v2.pdf \(adelaide.edu.au\)](https://openness-agreement-may23-v2.pdf)

ACTION: JW to reply to Malcolm to advise ICLAS Oceania will sign up to the agreement.

Note: Even as a Supporter, ICLAS Oceania consider reporting to be an essential part of the Openness Agreement.

ANZCCART Openness Agreement NZ

This was discussed in detail due to ANZCCART Openness Agreement New Zealand meeting for supporters which was held online on 15/06/2023.

Still to be discussed at future meetings

TZ [Archibold-Bakare](#) recommendation Fiji National University

ACTION: TZ to arrange an online meeting with JW and VB

TZ talk to vet students/teach/present in Fiji

ICLAS Funding

Regional Committees: reach out to the associations in your region to encourage funding requests for activities for 2023. Refer them to the application for support on the ICLAS web page at <https://iclas.org/regional-committees/>. Not updated yet – still showing 2022 date.

The deadline for submissions was 15 May 2023?

VB has emailed Antonio to ask if the deadline has passed and what it will be for next year.

JS has advised she can advertise the funding in ANZLAA newsletter, plus other special interest groups. ANZLAA conference end of August.

Committee actions for Lab animal work/people in the following areas:

Purpose - see if any interest in anything that ICLAS has to offer relating lab animal science and to extend invite for membership to our committee		
Action	For	Update
No ethics committees in New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Samoa that we know of.	-	
USP have a campus in Samoa & in Fiji	TZ	https://www.usp.ac.fj/research/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2021/12/animal_ethics_handbook.pdf https://www.usp.ac.fj/research/pg-affairs/post-graduate-resources/research-ethics/
Archibold-Bakare from Fiji National University FNU · College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry PhD	JW	TZ Archibold-Bakare recommendation Fiji National University
Vet Scholarship – to be mentioned at ANZLAA Vet SIG Journal club, and MMLA Journal club, gauge interest. Charles River Short Course? Some other options to follow up	JS & PS	On hold
Technician representative from Australia	JS	
Suggestions from veterinary schools in Caribbean & Philippines	PS	
Goal of quarterly meetings is to include one in person meeting: Idea put forward for Christchurch in 2024 to coincide with the ANZCCART conference.		

Future meetings

Next meeting date to be arranged for: **October or November 2023 via TEAMS**

Meeting closed at 10am

ANNUAL REPORT TEMPLATE FOR SIGNATORIES AND SUPPORTERS

VERS 22 MAY 2023

CONFIDENTIAL

This template is offered to assist Signatories and Supporters meet their annual reporting requirement under Commitment 4 of the Openness Agreement. Use of the template is not mandatory although organisations must ensure that any alternative approach clearly documents that all four Commitments have been met.

The overarching goal of the Openness Agreement is for organisations to demonstrate ongoing progress towards greater openness. This may need to be incremental and how it is achieved will vary depending on each organisation's focus and capacity. Organisations are therefore free to choose how they meet the Commitments in the Openness Agreement.

Suggestions of how an organisation may meet the Commitments are provided at the end of this document.

Reports will be reviewed in confidence by ANZCCART to help track progress in achieving greater openness. With the exception of the link to the organisation's public statement, ANZCCART will seek the organisation's consent before making any part of their report public, will be clear about what form that may take, and will respect requests for content to be de-identified.

To assist organisations with future reports, ANZCCART will prepare a Summary of reports from all organisations which will only be made available to Signatories and Supporters of the Openness Agreement. Apart from the link to the organisation's public statement, identifiable information will only be included in the Summary with the consent of the organisation concerned.

Please complete the following table:

Name of organisation:	
Location (suburb or city, state):	
Contact name for correspondence:	
Email address:	
Phone:	
12 month period covered by this report:	

- Please enter the link to your organisation's publicly available statement on the use of animals in research or teaching (Commitment 2). Note that **this link will be included in a public summary** of the Openness Agreement program to be prepared by ANZCCART.

Enter link here.

-
- Please **outline new and ongoing activities** that have supported the commitments of the Openness Agreement during the reporting period.

Your response should address Commitments 1, 2, and 3 and should therefore demonstrate transparency, responsiveness to enquiries, and support for public outreach. Examples of how the commitments could be met are provided at the end of this document. If you would like any assistance, please contact us at anzccart@adelaide.edu.au.

Up to 1000 words; option to attach additional material. Please include links if applicable.

- Please outline any highlights relating to your openness activities during the reporting period that you would be willing to have included on ANZCCART's Openness Agreement website.

Up to 500 words; option to attach additional material including images or videos.

- Are there any initiatives you would like to report that have helped advance the 3Rs?

Up to 500 words.

- Please outline any difficulties you have encountered in meeting your goals as a Signatory or Supporter during the reporting period and how you have approached their resolution. (Your response to this question will not be made public.)

Up to 500 words.

- Do you have any questions, comments or suggestions that could assist ANZCCART when it reviews the Openness Agreement program? (Your response to this question will not be made public.)

Up to 500 words.

- Does your organisation intend to remain a Signatory or Supporter of the Openness Agreement? (Your response to this question will not be made public.)

Yes/No/To be advised. Optional comment.

- Any further comments (optional).

Enter optional comments here.

Thank you for submitting your Annual Report. We will contact you with any feedback once your report has been reviewed.

For assistance or enquiries, please contact ANZCCART at anzccart@adelaide.edu.au.

SUGGESTIONS OF ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT COMMITMENTS

IN THE OPENNESS AGREEMENT

The following examples are **suggestions only** – this is not a checklist. Most examples are taken from initiatives already in place at one or more (and sometimes many) organisations in Australia.

1 Examples that support Commitment 1:

We will be open about our involvement in the use of animals in research or teaching.

- Media releases or other public announcements of research findings or teaching activities that mention when animals were used.
- Public communications highlighting initiatives to support the 3Rs.
- Mention of the use of animals in staff recruitment advertisements (when relevant to the position).
- Including images or videos of animals used in research or teaching on webpages showcasing a research program or group.
- Reference to the use of animals in the organisation's newsletter or other general communications to staff or students.
- Mention of the organisation's involvement with the use of animals during induction of new staff.
- Mention of the organisation's involvement with the use of animals in public events or general publications such as the annual report.
- Highlighting the contribution of animal care staff to animal welfare e.g. by supporting [Australian](#) or [international](#) Technician's Week initiatives.
- Promoting awareness of resources to support the wellbeing of staff or students working with animals used in research or teaching.
- Ensuring that responses to public enquiries about animal research are as timely and clear as possible.
- Making annual data on the number and species of animals used in research or teaching publicly available.
- Use of signage that identifies animal facilities in a manner that is consistent with the organisation's signage for other facilities (i.e. avoids euphemistic or vague terminology).

- Publishing a summary of the organisation’s four-yearly external review report (as recommended in [clause 6.2\[viii\] of the Code](#)).

2 Examples that support Commitment 2:

We will enhance our communications with the media and the public about our use of animals in research or teaching.

- A publicly available statement outlining your organisation’s involvement in the use of animals in research or teaching. This is mandatory. A wide range of examples can be viewed by clicking each signatory’s logo in the [New Zealand](#) and [UK](#) openness agreements.
- Ensuring public information on the organisation’s use of animals can be accessed easily from the organisation’s main webpage (no more than 3 clicks if possible).
- Use of lay language in public communications about the use of animals.
- Providing animal facility tours for the organisation’s media and communications team.
- Facilitating enquiries from the media or members of the public through a central or lab-based point of contact such as an ‘Animal Research Enquiries’ email address.
- Encouraging mentoring by research or teaching staff experienced in public engagement.
- Encouraging awareness of communication training resources available within the organisation.
- Encouraging staff to contribute articles on animal research to publications with a general readership.
- Including research communication as a topic in post-graduate induction programs.
- Supporting staff who wish to include reference to the use of animals in media releases or other public communications.
- Public-facing content that includes information on topics such as the care of animals used in research or teaching, the organisation’s support for the 3Rs, or the ethics of animal research.
- Provide incentives such as an annual award to recognise achievement in promoting openness.
- Ensuring timely responses to Freedom of Information requests with regular updates if applicable.
- Prioritising media training for relevant staff involved in high profile animal-based programs.

3 Examples that support Commitment 3:

We will be proactive in providing opportunities for the public to find out about research or teaching involving animals.

- Delivering presentations to schools or community groups on the use of animals in research or teaching.
- Supporting staff presentations at conferences on the ethics of animal research.
- Placement of high school work experience or TAFE students in the organisation’s animal facilities.
- Referencing the use of animals in presentations to the organisation’s benefactors.
- Collaborating with other organisations to provide a seminar for members of Animal Ethics Committees.
- Participation by animal researchers in non-scientific undergraduate teaching programs.
- Supporting activities such as [Biomedical Research Awareness Day](#).

- Include reference to the use and care of animals in research or teaching in relevant student recruitment information.
- Providing a display booth or other communication about the use of animals in research or teaching on the organisation's open days or orientation week.
- Creating a formal display or memorial to recognise animals used in research or teaching.
- Inclusion of topics relating to animal research when developing continuing education courses for the public.
- Supporting the rehoming of animals after use in research (where practicable) through third party organisations such as [The Liberty Foundation](#).
- Hosting multi-disciplinary seminars on animal research that include non-scientific perspectives from specialists in areas such as ethics, philosophy, history, literature or law.
- Organising public talks on the use of animals in research or teaching either online or face to face.
- Providing information about the institution's animal facilities supported by [images](#) or [video](#).
- Creating a virtual tour of an animal facility – see for example those in the UK (e.g. [Oxford](#), [Bristol](#), [Pirbright](#), [Harwell](#), [Manchester](#)), Germany (e.g. [Stuttgart](#), [Frankfurt](#)) and [Canada](#).
- Offering tours of animal facilities to non-scientific staff, families of researchers, community leaders or community groups.

4 Meeting Commitment 4:

This commitment specifies the requirement of Signatories and Supporters to report annually on their efforts to improve openness. While the use of this template not mandatory, organisations must ensure that any alternative approach can clearly demonstrate that the commitments are being met.