

## Activity Report: Workshop on Teaching Experimental Design for Animal Experiments on September 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> 2022, at the Faculty of Medicine University of Porto, Portugal

The workshop was organized and led by members of the FELASA Experimental Design Working Group. The items for discussion were identified based on earlier workshop and the aim is to train the trainers that will go back to their respective institutions and pass the knowledge. The topics range from approaches of teaching statistics to current issues in design of animal experiments that need to be addressed. The format of the workshop was based on a few lecture presentations followed by more on discussions and group activities. Participants were divided into 5 groups to work on assignments. In those group assignments, subgroup members were expected to discuss and present their final conclusions to the whole participants. Assignments include identifying design issues in a certain realistic scenario provided by the organizers, providing alternative solutions to a design problem, identify the best possible design element for a given experimental scenario, etc.

The workshop helped me to get to know and interact with scientists working in similar area. Even though the workshop was conducted in September last year, there is still a network of email exchange with the participants so that one can exchange ideas and share best practices. The mailing list and a share drive created immediately after the workshop is helpful in sharing resources.

On personal level, I am using some of the ideas I have learned during this workshop to create more awareness on issues related to design of animal experiments at my company and planning to incorporate the learnings in my teaching of statistical awareness training to fellow scientists working in animal experiments.

Finally, I would like to extend my appreciation to the FELASA and ICLAS for supporting this initiative and partially sponsoring my attendance, and the Experimental Design Working Group and coordinators of the workshop.

Sincerely,  
Fetene Tekle  
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